NEW AVENGERS

"This book sits in your gut and makes you feel its drama. These are certainly not the old Avengers."
— Newsarama.com

EVERYTHING DIES

HICKMAN MARVEL NOW! EPTING

VOL 1

"Clearly, Hickman and Epting are onto something grand here." — IGN.com

THE ILLUMINATI MUST REASSEMBLE TO PREVENT THE COLLISION OF OUR UNIVERSE WITH ANOTHER!

It's the Marvel Universe's most powerful and brilliant team — Black Panther, Iron Man, Dr. Strange, Black Bolt, Mr. Fantastic, Sub-Mariner and the Beast — armed with the six Infinity Gems against an infinite legion of parallel realities. But their task is complicated by old wounds, lies and secret agendas. When the Illuminati experiences its first dimensional incursion, can the members of this loose brotherhood trust each other enough to use the Infinity Gems in unison? And when they learn Earth is the center point for the death of the universe, doesn't that mean destroying it might save everything else? Enter the world-eater, Galactus, as the Illuminati does the unthinkable! Jonathan Hickman and Steve Epting revamp *New Avengers* in a multiverse-spanning saga!

Collecting *New Avengers (2013) #1-6*.

MARVEL T+

NEW AVENGERS®

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PENCILER: STEVE EPTING
INKERS: RICK MAGYAR WITH STEVE EPTING
COLORIST: FRANK D'ARMATA
LETTERER: VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA
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PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

YEARS AGO, THE MOST POWERFUL MEN IN THE WORLD VOTED ON WHETHER OR NOT TO RUN THE WORLD IN SECRET.

ONLY ONE OF THEM DISAGREED.

T'CHALLA...

I'M TELLING YOU NOW: END THIS.

WALK AWAY FROM THIS TABLE AND GO HOME.

WOW, T'CHALLA--

YOU JUST DECIDED ***ALL BY YOURSELVES*** THAT YOU ARE THE EARTH'S PROTECTORS.

AND THAT YOU, AND ***ONLY*** YOU, NOT YOUR TEAMMATES OR FAMILY, ARE TRUSTWORTHY ENOUGH TO INCLUDE IN THE PROCESS...

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DISAGREE?

WHEN ONE OF THESE EARTH-CHANGING MOMENTS FINDS YOU ALL AT ODDS WITH EACH OTHER, HERE IN A SECRET MEETING?

WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

WALK AWAY NOW.

THEY DID NOT.

NEW AVENGERS®

#1

JONATHAN HICKMAN
RICK MAGYAR

MARVEL NOW!

STEVE EPTING
FRANK D'ARMATA

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

001

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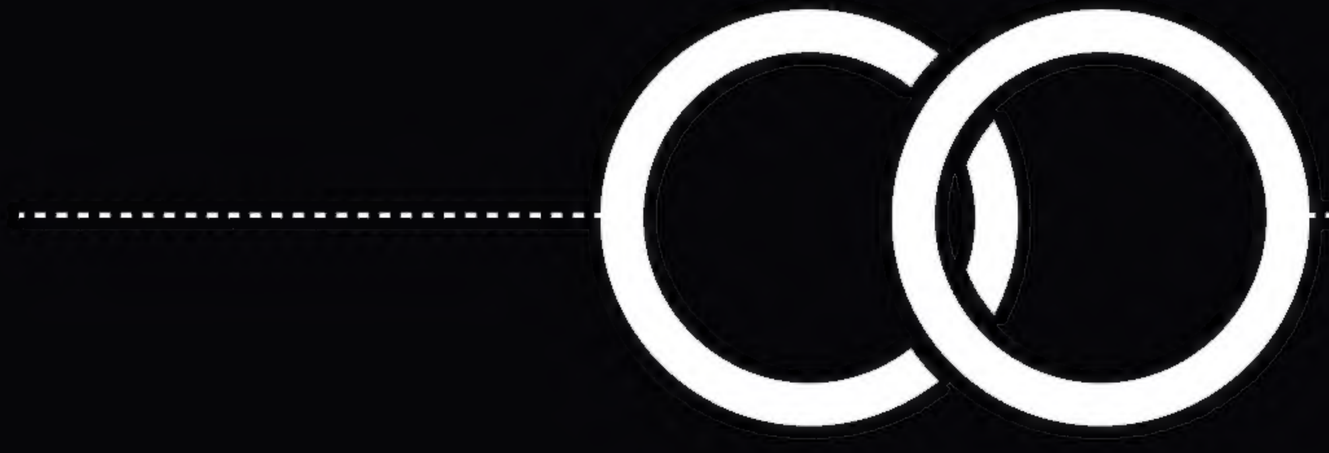

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NOW.

EVERYTHING DIES.

YOU. ME. EVERYONE ON THIS PLANET.

OUR SUN. OUR GALAXY. AND, EVENTUALLY, THE UNIVERSE ITSELF.

THIS IS SIMPLY HOW THINGS ARE.

IT'S INEVITABLE...

AND I ACCEPT IT.

WAKANDA.
26 HOURS AGO.

THERE IT IS.
I TOLD YOU WE'D BE FIRST.

THE GAMES ARE DESIGNED TO FIND THIS GENERATION'S POTENTIAL *MAKERS*, KIMO. AND LAST TIME I CHECKED, SEEING THE FINISH LINE ISN'T THE SAME AS CROSSING IT.

YEAH...BUT IT DOES MEAN WE'RE CLOSE, N'KONO.

WE SOLVED THE *GOLDEN PARADOX*. WE FOUND THE *LOST TRIBE*, AND THEN WE DECODED THE STRUCTURE OF THE *ARTIFICIAL MAN*...

THIS IS ALL THAT REMAINS BETWEEN US AND *THE PRIZE*.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT COULD BE, T'DORI? MONEY? GLORY?

I'D SETTLE FOR A JETPACK. WHO KNOWS? THE COUNCIL OF PROGRESS MAKES A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE THE ROYAL FAMILY DECIDES WHICH...*HOLD ON*... WAIT...

THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. *HOUT, D'KIHU...YOOL.*

IT'S JUST A LIST. LOCATIONS, MAYBE?

NOT PLACES, T'DORI... *NAMES*.

A VERY SPECIFIC LIST OF GRIOT BARDS-- THEY FORMULATED THE EXISTENCE OF THE SUNDIATA CODE. A HIDDEN CIPHER WITHIN THE REGION'S ORAL HISTORY.

IT'S A THEORY ABOUT *TRADITION*. OF EXACTLY HOW WAKANDAN EXCELLENCE HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE GENERATIONS. PASSED DOWN THROUGH BLOOD.

AH. I SEE...

BLOOD.

SO WE REMEMBER WHERE WE CAME FROM...

...ON THE WAY TO *WHERE WE'RE GOING.*

FSSHHTT!

HUH!

STELLAR CARTOGRAPHY-- A MAP OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

COUNT, KIMO...TWELVE PLANETS.

IT'S NOT OURS.

BUT IT IS WHERE YOU ARE HEADED.

MY KING!

THIS IS NOT NECROPOLIS, CHILD.

TO THE LIVING, I AM SIMPLY THE *BLACK PANTHER.*

CONGRATULATIONS, *MAKERS.* ON YOUR FEET--*STAND TALL.* YOU ARE THE FINEST OF YOUR GENERATION.

KIMO, T'DORI...VERY, VERY WELL DONE.

N'KONO, YOUR FATHER'S GRANDFATHER WAS T'KONDA--THE BLACK PANTHER OF HIS TIME.

HE WAS CALLED "*THE WALL,*" AND NOW HIS SPIRIT, LIKE ALL OTHER PREVIOUS PANTHERS, LIVES WITHIN ME.

I FEEL HIS PRIDE WHEN I LOOK AT YOU.

PRIDE.

PRIDE, AND NOT *SHAME*, WHICH IS WHAT WE FEEL FOR THE WORLD *OUT THERE.*

GREAT SOCIETIES ARE CRUMBLING AROUND US, AND THE OLD MEN WHO RUN THEM ARE OUT OF IDEAS.

SO ALL EYES TURN TO YOU, *OUR CHILDREN*-- TO BUILD US SOMETHING *BETTER.*

THIS IS M23-671A. AN M-CLASS PLANET CIRCLING AN ORANGE DWARF 241 LIGHT-YEARS AWAY.

THE WEST HAS ABANDONED SPACE, AND THE EAST CRAWLS WHEN IT COULD RUN...AS A RESULT, WAKANDA NOW POSSESSES THE PREEMINENT SPACE PROGRAM ON THE PLANET...

BUT WE MUST DO MORE, GO FARTHER...TO SOMEWHERE NO HUMAN HAS EVER BEEN.

YOUR PRIZE, *MAKERS*...ARE *THE STARS* THEMSELVES.

THE STARS... OH, WOW...

I KNOW. YOU DREAM A THING, AND THE IDEA THAT IT COULD BECOME REAL...

AMAZING.

HEY...DO YOU GUYS FEEL THAT... LIKE LITTLE MICRO-TREMORS?

HRMPH. I'M NOT SEEING ANYTHING.

NO. HE'S RIGHT...I CAN FEEL IT NOW.

SOMETHING'S COMING THIS WAY.

RUMBLLEEE!

LOOK OUT!

WOOF. SOMETHING REALLY SPOOKED HIM.

DID YOU SEE THAT? IT WAS LIKE--

YES. I SAW IT.

STAY HERE.

GODDESS.

KI WASSURU.

SHARUR?

NURU UL SHARUR.

DAMIQ.

HE SAID TO STAY ON THE OTHER SIDE.

IT'S JUST A LOOK, N'KONO. WHERE'S YOUR SPIRIT OF--

QUIET.

NADANU.

HHRRMMMMMM!

UH. DID ANYONE NOTICE THAT THERE'S A GIANT PLANET HANGING IN THE SKY?

THEY CAME FROM THERE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'RE DOING HERE?

WHY DON'T WE ASK?

NO! KIMO... *WAIT!*

CAN'T DO IT, T'DORI--DUTY CALLS...

BESIDES, WHAT KIND OF FUTURE ASTRONAUT-EXPLORER IS AFRAID OF A LITTLE FIRST CONTACT?

HELLO!

WELCOME TO WAKANDA!

KIMO! *STOP!*

HELLO!

SUHARRURU!

WHAT IS THAT SHE'S SPEAKING? *IT'S OLD*--IS THAT AKKADIAN?

OLDER.

HIGH SUMERIAN.

AND YOU SPEAK ENGLISH.

...SO IT'S ONE OF THOSE EARTHS.

YOU CAN UNDERSTAND ME?

YES.

THE WORLD IN THE SKY, IS THIS--WHATEVER THIS IS...IT'S YOUR DOING?

MY DOING?

YES, I AM A *BLACK SWAN*--BUT NO MAN OR WOMAN CAN SUMMON AN *INCURSION*.

WE SIMPLY LIVE WITH THE LOSS AND GIVE THE GREAT DESTROYER HIS DUE.

RABUM ALAL... HE IS IMPATIENT AND HIS APPETITE ENDLESS.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN *ANYTHING*.

OH...IT MEANS *EVERYTHING*.

TELL ME...IF I TOLD YOU I CAME HERE TO KILL A WORLD, WOULD YOU TRY TO STOP ME?

I WOULD DO MORE THAN TRY.

OF COURSE. ANA SIMTUM ALAKU.

KILL THEM.

AARGHH!

NOOOOOO!

THUD!

THWOP!

RRARRR'R!

THWOP!

<THERE! THEY ARE HEADED BACK INTO THE JUNGLE!>

<DO NOT LET THEM REACH THE *INCURSION* WALL.>

THWOP!

<SWITCH TO *THERMAL*.>

SOMETHING IS WRONG.

I SHOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO JUMP US ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE ROYAL CITY. WHATEVER THIS PLACE IS, IT INTERFERES WITH LOCALIZED SPACE-TIME.

GOOD. I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE.

KIMO...T'DORI...THEY KILLED MY BROTHER, MY SISTER. WE MUST GO BACK AND MAKE THEM PAY.

NO. *THINK*, N'KONO. THIS COULD...

YOU WILL RETURN AND INFORM THE CITY... *UNDERSTAND?*

OUR PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY LOST TOO MUCH TODAY...I WOULD NOT FORFEIT OUR ENTIRE FUTURE.

...IT SEEMED LIKE SUCH A PERFECT DAY.

AAIEEEEEEEE!

NO!

MY KING...

I HAVE YOU, N'KONO.

I'M HERE.

MY KING...

I SEE...

I SEE...

YES? WHAT DO YOU SEE, N'KONO?

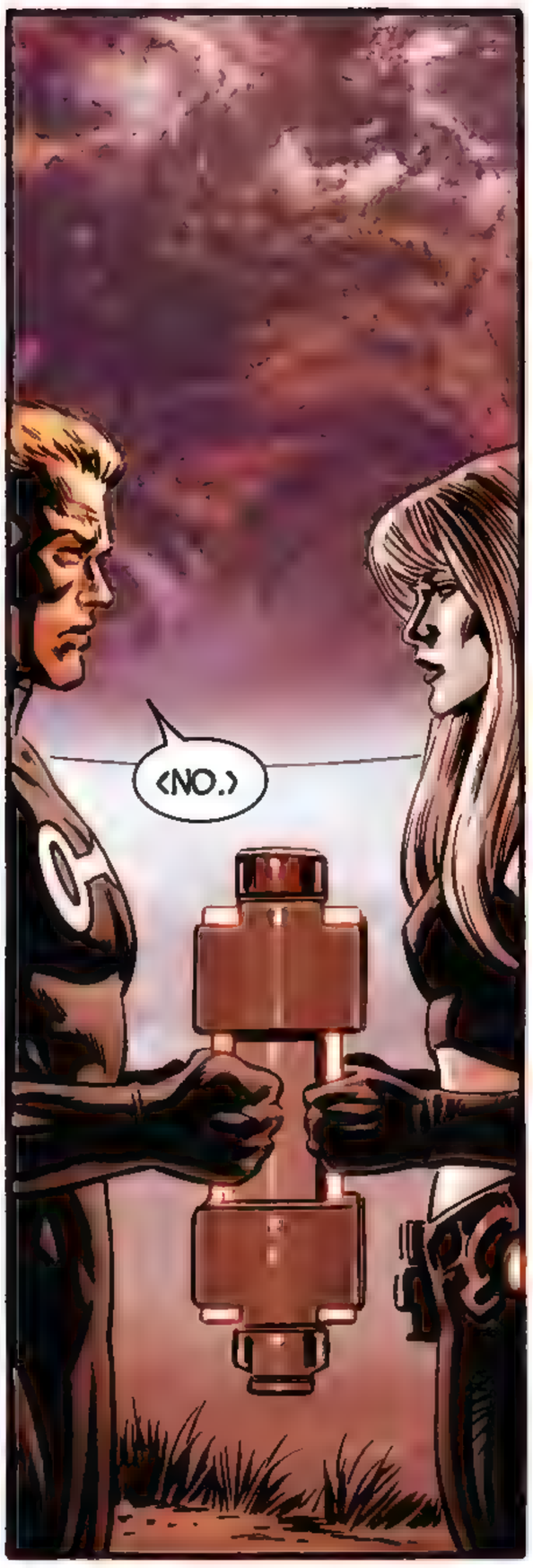
TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE?

I SEE THEM...MY KING. I SEE...

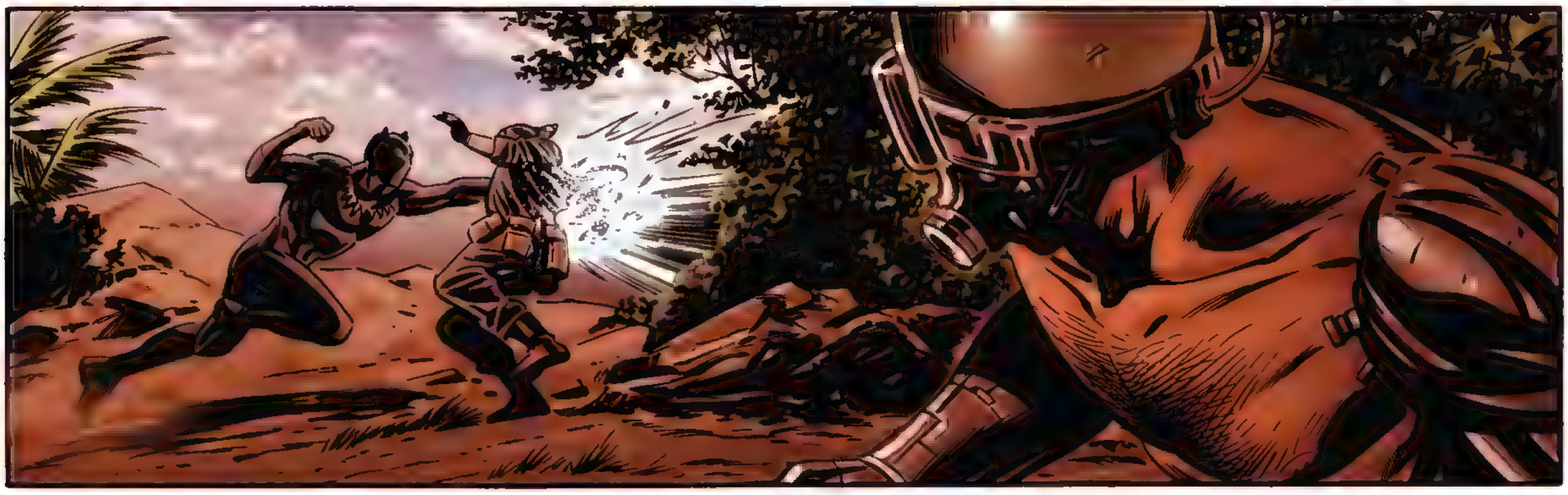
I SEE...

THE STARS.

‹DO YOU HAVE IT?›
‹YES. AS AGREED.›
‹GOOD. THEN GIVE IT TO ME... UNLESS YOU WANT TO PAY THE OFFERING.›
‹CAN YOU DO THAT, SWEET, SWEET MANIFOLD?›


‹NO.›

‹THEN WHAT GOOD ARE YOU?›
WHAAAAAM



<SO I ESCAPE ONLY TO BE MURDERED HERE--IN THIS EDEN?>

<I MADE ALL THIS POSSIBLE!>

<YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS.>

<YOU'RE WRONG. *THIS* IS HOW IT IS.>

<YOU SAID I WOULD LIVE AND NOT DIE.>

<I SAID *NOTHING* OF FOREVER.>

DARGGHHH!

<THE WHEEL--IT IS *RELENTLESS*.>

"TELL ME...IF I TOLD YOU I CAME HERE TO KILL A WORLD, WOULD YOU TRY TO STOP ME?"

ANA SIMTIM ALAKU ERSETU!

CLICK!

BRRR

ONCE, THE GODDESS SPOKE, AND I WAS GIVEN A PROPHECY.

A WORD SPOKEN IN FIRE AND FLOOD, A WORD OF DEAD KINGS AND HOPELESS CAUSES.

OF THE FUTURE LOST AND OF WORLDS DYING.

OF FALLEN ANGELS AND LOST SOULS.

WHEN FACING THE END...

WHEN EVERYTHING AROUND YOU CRUMBLES--WHEN EVERYTHING WITHERS AND DIES...

WHO ANSWERS THE CALL OF DESPERATE MEN?

NEW AVENGERS:

ILLUMINATI

THE NECROPOLIS AT WAKANDA.
THE NEXT DAY.

GODDESS.
OH, GODDESS.

SAVE ME FROM WHAT THIS WORLD DEMANDS.

SAVE ME FROM RIGHTEOUS MEN.

SAVE ME FROM THINKERS.

SAVE ME FROM SUMMONERS.

SAVE ME FROM MIDNIGHT KINGS...

AND THE DEVIL HIMSELF.

OH GODDESS, SAVE ME...

SAVE ME FROM WHAT WE ARE ABOUT TO DO.

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

The hits just keep on coming with no sign of abating, and this month is no exception! The big story for January is the relaunch of **NEW AVENGERS**, now in the hands of scribe Jonathan Hickman and illustrator Steve Epting! Last time these guys got together, they killed the Human Torch and reinvented the Fantastic Four—so you can just imagine what they have in store for the Black Panther and the mysterious, clandestine Illuminati! It's only the end of not just our world, but every world—and it's coming your way twice this month to kick the series off in style!

Also back in the spotlight this month is **YOUNG AVENGERS**, getting its own sparkly new first issue (with an in-demand variant by Scott Pilgrim's Bryan Lee O'Malley!) But this isn't quite the Young Avengers that you know—creators Kieron Gillen, Jamie McKelvie, Mike Norton and Matthew Wilson have mixed in some new faces along with the old! So be on the lookout for Loki, Marvel Boy, and Miss America as well as Hulkling, Wiccan and Hawkeye—in **YOUNG AVENGERS #1**!

One of the best things about being in this business is getting letters like this one!

Dear Marvel,

The first Marvel comic I got was the Avengers. I really liked it so I started getting more. I love to draw the Marvel super heroes and they've inspired me to make my own super hero team. For this drawing, I decided to make the faces out of plasticine for a more 3-D effect. I hope you like it. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Humphrey Hamma
Portland, OR

Brilliant work, Humphrey! Thanks for sharing it with us!

We're sorry if it seems like we're beating a dead horse, but we're just so knocked out by the response to the letter we printed a few months ago from Elizabeth Snee about her injured husband that we feel like we just have to share the good vibes with everyone! Among those that offered to send care packages of comics were Scott Randel, Zac Sutton, Stephen Davidson, Rachel Ward, Joan M. McHugh, Derek Callow, Joe Gentile, Santana Arjune, John Voulieris, Michael P. Falcone, and Borja Alcaraz, heroes all! Know that they have been awarded the Imperial Crest of No-Prizedom for their gallant efforts on behalf of our injured comrade, with our thanks!

NEXT ISSUE:

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

UNCANNY AVENGERS #4
FINAL CONFLICT WITH THE RED SKULL'S S-MEN! AND, OH, THAT LAST PAGE!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #11
IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES UNTIL SOMEBODY LOSES AN IRON MAN!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE ANNUAL #1
THE VISION MUST MAKE A DRAMATIC CHOICE ABOUT HIS FUTURE!

AVENGERS #3
SHOWDOWN ON MARS! FEATURING EVERYBODY!

AVENGERS #4
ADAM KUBERT ILLUSTRATES AS THE SECRETS OF HYPERION ARE REVEALED!

NEW AVENGERS #1
THE RETURN OF THE ILLUMINATI!

NEW AVENGERS #2
ARE THE INFINITY GEMS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE THE EARTH?

SECRET AVENGERS #36
VENOM AND VALKYRIE INVADE THE CORE!

SECRET AVENGERS #37
FINAL ISSUE! IS DEATH THE ONLY WAY TO STOP FATHER'S DESCENDANTS?

AVENGERS ARENA #3
X-23 VS. ANNIHILATION'S CAMMI! PLUS: A BIG CHANGE FOR DARKHAWK!

YOUNG AVENGERS #1
THEY'RE BACK—BECAUSE SOMEONE HAS TO SAVE THE WORLD!

DARK AVENGERS #185
AT WAR WITH THE DEADLY DOCTOR STRANGE!

DARK AVENGERS #186
THE RETURN OF THE U.S.AGENT!

A + X #4
BEAST AND SPIDER-MAN FIND THEMSELVES IN A POST-APOCALYPTIC FUTURE, WHILE CAPTAIN AMERICA SPENDS SOME QUALITY TIME WITH QUENTIN QUIRE!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE vs THE AVENGERS #4

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #10

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

NEW AVENGERS

HICKMAN
EPTING
MAGYAR
D'ARMATA

MARVEL NOW!

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002

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--BUT NO MAN OR WOMAN CAN SUMMON AN INCURSION. WE SIMPLY LIVE WITH THE LOSS AND GIVE THE GREAT DESTROYER HIS DUE.

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SAVE ME FROM WHAT WE ARE ABOUT TO DO.

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"IN SECRET, THEY RULE"

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MEMENTO MORI

THE ILLUMINATI

— HOLDERS OF THE INFINITY GEMS —

BLACK BOLT
Celestial Messiah

NAMOR
Imperius Rex
(THE POWER GEM)

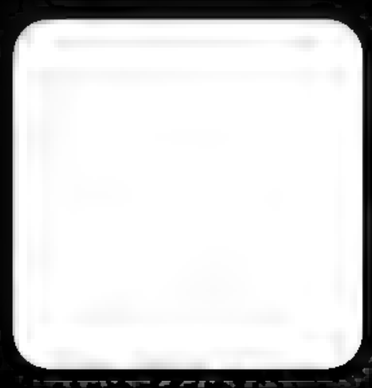
REED RICHARDS
Universal Builder
(THE REALITY GEM)

IRON MAN
Master of Machines
(THE SPACE GEM)

CAPTAIN AMERICA
Hero of Legend
(THE TIME GEM)

DOCTOR STRANGE
Sorcerer Supreme
(THE SOUL GEM)

BLACK PANTHER
King of the Dead



PROFESSOR XAVIER
Deceased
(THE MIND GEM)

THREE HOURS AGO.
THE NECROPOLIS AT WAKANDA.

ENKI, PALASU ANNU QUPPU!

LAPAN ANNU WARDUM ANA SIMTIM ALAKU!

ENKI, PALAS--

CH-CHUNK

YOU MAKE TOO MUCH NOISE TO BE THE MAN WHO CAPTURED ME...

SHOULD I HOLD OUT HOPE THAT YOU ARE AN ANGEL, COME TO SET ME FREE?

I'M SORRY. NO.

MY NAME IS REED RICHARDS.

I'LL BE YOUR INTERROGATOR.

I DO NOT FEAR PAIN.

WELL...I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT MATTERS.

WHAT DOES MATTER, IS THAT I'M ONLY INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU KNOW--SO, IF YOU WANT, WE COULD *JUST TALK.*

BE-DOOP!

AND IN RETURN--AS A GESTURE OF GOOD FAITH...

...I COULD PRETEND THAT I CAN'T SEE--AND DON'T KNOW--WHAT THAT IS YOU'VE GOT HIDDEN AWAY INSIDE OF YOU.

SO WHY DON'T WE JUST TALK?

MY FRIEND--THE MAN WHO CAPTURED YOU YESTERDAY--TOLD ME YOU JUMPED HERE FROM ANOTHER WORLD...

THAT YOU ACCESSED SOME KIND OF DEVICE, AND THEN DESTROYED THE PLANET YOU CAME FROM.

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THAT WORLD WAS CALLED.

EARTH.

BUT SURELY A CLEVER MAN LIKE YOU KNEW THAT ALREADY.

THE DATA I'VE BEEN PROVIDED--THE FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT, YOUR BIOLOGY... *OTHER THINGS*--SUGGESTED THAT BEING A LIKELY CONCLUSION.

BUT TO *KNOW A THING* BEYOND DOUBT? NOTHING SO FAR, NOT EVEN YOUR WORDS, PROVIDES THAT ASSURANCE. AFTER ALL, YOU COULD BE DECEIVING ME...

WHY WOULD ANYONE DESTROY THEIR HOME?

I HAVE NO SUCH PLACE.

AS FOR THE PLANET'S DESTRUCTION... THE WHEEL DEMANDS ITS OFFERING.

AND THE GREAT DESTROYER ALWAYS GETS HIS DUE.

IF YOU SAY SO.

MY NOTES HERE ALSO SAY YOU KILLED YOUR COMPANION. WAS HE "AN OFFERING" ALSO? OR WAS IT SOMETHING MORE BASE...SOMETHING IN YOUR NATURE, PERHAPS?

IT'S CALLED MERCY. A MANIFOLD IS USELESS OUTSIDE ITS NATIVE UNIVERSE.

HIS DEATH WAS A GIFT, FOR THE WHEEL SHAMES THE WEAK.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND, REED RICHARDS...

WHAT I DO--EVERYTHING I DO--I DO OUT OF NECESSITY.

SO WHY DON'T YOU SIMPLY ASK ME WHAT YOU WANT INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MANEUVER ME INTO THE CONVERSATION YOU WANT TO HAVE?

VERY WELL...

WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS, IF YOU CALL NO PLACE HOME--AND IF YOU NEED NO ONE--WHY DID THE SECURITY CAMERAS IN THIS ROOM CAPTURE YOU CRYING OUT FOR HELP, AND WEEPING IN YOUR SLEEP LAST NIGHT?

IS IT YOUR ACTIONS THAT HAUNT YOU, YOUNG LADY...OR IS IT *SOMETHING ELSE?*

IT *BREAKS HOPE*--IT *CRUSHES* WHAT MAKES US DECENT AND *STEALS* WHAT LITTLE HONOR REMAINS.

YOU HAVE... *NO IDEA* WHAT IS COMING.

WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME?

ONE HOUR AGO.

<ANYTHING?>*

<NO, MY LORD.>

<OPEN IT.>

<SIRE... I DON'T... I...>

*TRANSLATED FROM HAUSA.

<SPEAK FREELY, LITTLE MOTHER.>

<THE WALLS WERE BROKEN. BLOOD WAS SPILLED.>

<THOUSANDS OF WAKANDANS DIED, AND OUR NATION IS NOW AT WAR...>

<IF THE PEOPLE--IF THE *QUEEN*--FINDS OUT THAT WE HAVE ALLOWED... *THAT MAN* HERE...>

<MY LORD... I FEAR FOR YOU.>

<YOU SHOULD LET THAT LITTLE FEAR DIE, AND IN ITS PLACE ALLOW SOMETHING MORE SINISTER TO GROW--FEAR FOR US ALL.>

<AS FOR THE OTHER...I WILL LEAVE THE KEEPING OF SECRETS TO YOU, DORA MILAJE.>

T'CHALLA.

WHILE HERE, THERE ARE RULES YOU MUST ADHERE TO, NAMOR.

EXCEPT FOR ME, YOU ARE TO INTERACT WITH NO WAKANDANS. DO NOT ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE SEEN. IF SEEN, DO NOT SPEAK. AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE YOU TO VENTURE BEYOND THE NECROPOLIS AND INTO THE CITY.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

THIS MUST BE SO DIFFICULT FOR YOU.

IN SECRET, WE RULE.

I REMEMBER... YOU SAID A GATHERING SUCH AS THIS WAS A GREAT MISTAKE...YOU CALLED US FOOLS.

YOU SAID WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WE WERE DOING.

SO TELL ME, T'CHALLA, WERE YOU WRONG THEN...OR ARE YOU THAT DESPERATE NOW?

WHILE HERE, THERE ARE RULES YOU MUST ADHERE TO, NAMOR.

DO YOU... *UNDERSTAND?*

OF COURSE.

THEN IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE OTHERS.

BUT ONE LAST THING...

YOU HAVE THE BLOOD OF MY PEOPLE ON YOUR HANDS.

SO WHEN THIS IS DONE-- WHEN MY WANTS HAVE REPLACED MY NEEDS...

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU.

NOW.

EVERYTHING DIES.

YOU. ME. EVERYONE ON THIS PLANET.

OUR SUN. OUR GALAXY. AND, EVENTUALLY, THE UNIVERSE ITSELF.

THIS IS SIMPLY HOW THINGS ARE.

IT'S INEVITABLE...

AND I ACCEPT IT.

WHAT I WILL NOT TOLERATE-- WHAT I FIND *UNACCEPTABLE*--IS THE UNNATURAL ACCELERATION OF THAT END.

WHICH IS WHY T'CHALLA SUMMONED US HERE...

AS THE UNTIMELY END OF EVERYTHING IS WHAT WE NOW FACE.

SEE, REED... THIS IS WHY YOU NEVER GET INVITED TO THE GOOD PARTIES.

MANY, MANY TIMES HAVE WE FACED THE WORLD'S END.

AND EACH TIME YOU REFUSED TO ANSWER OUR CALL--YOU REFUSED TO JOIN US...

WHAT MAKES THIS SO DIFFERENT, T'CHALLA?

THE FUTURE OF MY PEOPLE DIED IN MY ARMS YESTERDAY, STEPHEN.

WHAT FOLLOWED...IT DWARFED THAT.

THEN WHAT--

NO. BEFORE WE GET TO WHAT BROUGHT US HERE...

THERE ARE PRECAUTIONS THAT NEED TO BE TAKEN.

WE HAVE BEEN INFILTRATED BEFORE. PLAYED FOR FOOLS.

IF MATTERS ARE THIS GRAVE, I WOULD KNOW IF ONE OF YOU IS NOT WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE...

PROVE YOURSELVES.

NAMOR ISN'T WRONG.

I AGREE.

STEPHEN... TONY... WHERE ARE YOUR INFINITY GEMS?

BEYOND THE CHAOS REALM OF SHUMA-GORATH IS A POCKET REALITY CONSTRUCTED FROM THE PURE WHITE LIGHT OF ONE BILLION PRAYERS. I'VE HIDDEN THE *SOUL* GEM THERE...

RETRIEVING IT IS... *COSTLY.*

SO I ONLY DO SO IF I MUST.

AND I LEFT MINE IN MY SOCK DRAWER.

THREE'S ENOUGH FOR VERIFICATION. LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH...

BECAUSE I'M PRETTY ANXIOUS TO FIND OUT WHAT'S PUT THE FEAR OF GOD INTO THE TWO SMARTEST PEOPLE I KNOW.

MY NAME IS TONY STARK.

I AM IRON MAN.

CONFIRMED.

AND BLACK BOLT IS THE MIDNIGHT KING.

RULER OF THE INHUMANS.

CONFIRMED

REED RICHARDS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR.

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMED

I AM DOCTOR STEPHEN STRANGE...POSSESSOR OF THE *ALL-SEEING EYE OF AGAMOTTO.*

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMED

THAT YOU PEOPLE HAD THE INFINITY GEMS ONLY FURTHER CONFIRMS MY WORST FEARS ABOUT THIS GATHERING OF OURS.

I SEE A FUTURE FILLED WITH REGRET.

I AM NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER.

I REGRET... *NOTHING.*

AND I'M STEVE ROGERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA.

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMED

I AM T'CHALLA. THE BLACK PANTHER.

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMED

FANTASTIC.

AND AS WE'VE ALL BEEN BRIEFED ON WHAT HAPPENED TO T'CHALLA, PERHAPS SOMEONE COULD EXPLAIN WHAT IT ALL MEANS?

REED?

OF COURSE.

IT MIGHT BE BEST IF I START WITH THINGS WE ALL KNOW TO BE TRUE.

BE-DOOP!

"LIFE AND DEATH.

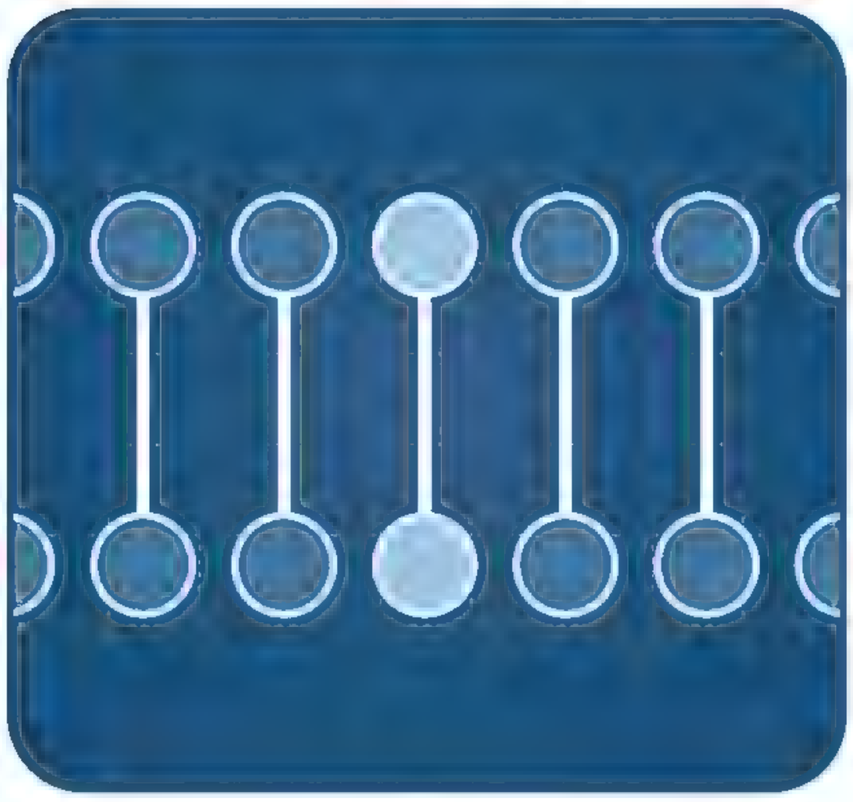
"THE BIRTH AND HEAT DEATH OF EVERYTHING LIE AT OPPOSITE ENDS ON THE TIMELINE OF THE UNIVERSE.

"THE BEGINNING AND END OF OUR EARTH ALSO EXISTS ON THIS TIMELINE AND, OF COURSE, FALLS WITHIN THESE TWO END POINTS.

"OUR WORLD WAS BORN AFTER THE UNIVERSE'S CREATION, AND OUR WORLD WILL DIE BEFORE THE UNIVERSE ENDS.

"WE ALSO KNOW THERE IS A MULTIVERSE OF REALITIES. AN INFINITE NUMBER OF EARTHS, INSIDE AN INFINITE NUMBER OF UNIVERSES, WHERE ANY MANNER OF DIVERGENT REALITY CAN EXIST.

"ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES...

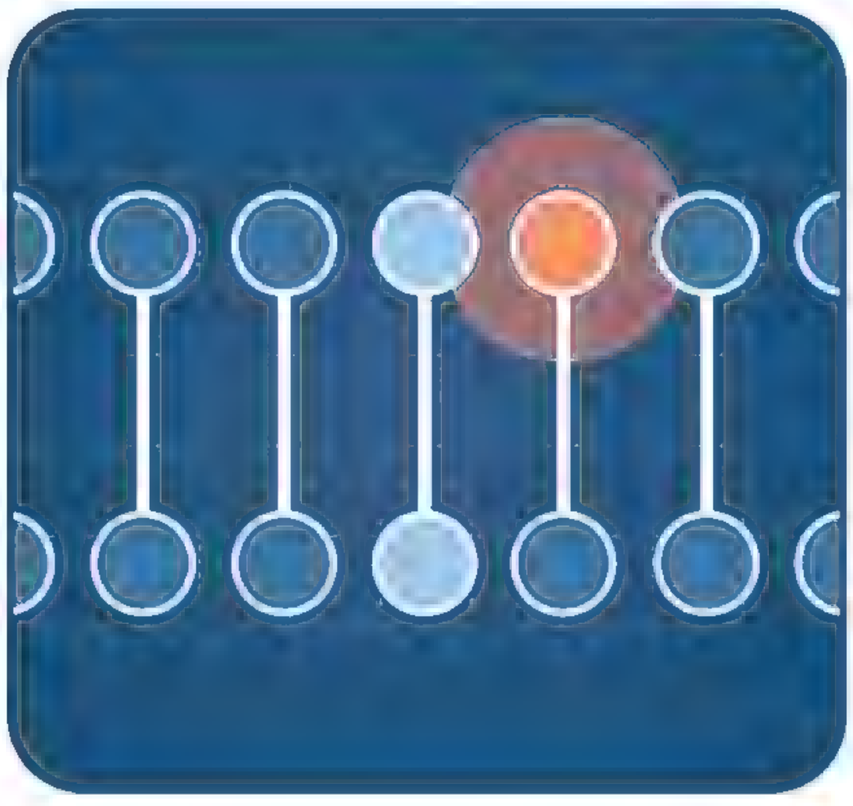


"HOWEVER, AS I MENTIONED EARLIER... ***EVERYTHING DIES.***

"SO, REGARDLESS OF HOW MANY REALITIES THERE ARE, EVENTUALLY THEY ALL END UP IN THE SAME PLACE AND IN THE SAME STATE. EXTINGUISHED AT THE END OF EVERYTHING.

"AND HERE'S WHERE OUR PROBLEM LIES.

"I'VE LEARNED THAT SOMEWHERE, ON ONE OF THESE EARTHS, AN ***EVENT*** OCCURRED THAT CAUSED THE EARLY DEATH OF ONE OF THESE UNIVERSES.



"THAT ***UNTIMELY, UNNATURAL*** EVENT THEN CAUSED A TINY CONTRACTION IN THE MULTIVERSE'S TIMELINE.

"NOW, EVERYTHING WOULD DIE EVER-SO-SLIGHTLY SOONER.

"IN ADDITION, THAT TINY CONTRACTION CAUSED TWO UNIVERSES TO SMASH TOGETHER AT THE *INCURSION POINT* OF THE INITIAL EVENT.

"AND THIS IS WHERE YOU REALLY WANT TO PAY ATTENTION... THAT *POINT* WAS *EARTH.*

"THEY TOUCHED, AND DESTROYED EACH OTHER--TAKING THEIR UNIVERSES WITH THEM--CAUSING YET ANOTHER CONTRACTION IN THE TIMELINE.

"WHICH IN TURN ACCELERATED THE SMASHING TOGETHER OF EVEN MORE EARTHS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIVERSES.

"AND THAT'S WHAT T'CHALLA WITNESSED--ANOTHER EARTH COLLIDING WITH OUR EARTH."

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. IF THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED, HOW ARE WE HERE?

THE WOMAN--*THE BLACK SWAN*--USED A DEVICE TO DESTROY THE OTHER EARTH, PREVENTING IMPACT.

IS THAT REALLY WHAT SHE CALLS HERSELF?

YES.

WELL THAT'S... *JUST PERFECT,* AND FOREBODING AS HELL.

WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO STOP THIS.

A MULTIVERSAL APOCALYPTIC DEATH SCENARIO...SURE, I'D SAY IT'S A SITUATION THAT NEEDS HANDLING.

OUR PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE TOO MANY UNKNOWNS.

WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF THE COLLAPSE? CAN THE CHAIN REACTION BE STOPPED? CAN IT EVEN BE SLOWED DOWN?

WE DO HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY THAT THE BLACK SWAN HAD ON HER PERSON.

THIS INCLUDES THE TRIGGER MECHANISM TO WHATEVER DESTROYED THE OTHER PLANET, SO THERE'S--

LET ME STOP THIS CONVERSATION RIGHT HERE.

WE ARE GOING TO HANDLE THIS EXACTLY LIKE WE NORMALLY WOULD.

WE WILL PREPARE, GATHER INTELLIGENCE, AND WHEN THE NEXT EPISODE OCCURS, USE THAT INFORMATION TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO WIN.

BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE DO.

THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT WON'T WORK, CAP.

WE WON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME.

WHY NOT?

ACCORDING TO THE SWAN, THERE ARE CONSTANTS.

CALL THEM *RULES.*

"AS I STATED EARLIER, THE TIME WHEN TWO EARTHS BEGIN TO COLLIDE IS CALLED AN ***INCURSION***, AND EVERY SINGLE ONE IS EXACTLY THE SAME.

"BEFORE THEY BEGIN, THERE IS A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF HARMONIC ALIGNMENT, WHICH IS WHAT ALLOWS THE TWO EARTHS TO EXIST IN THE SAME SPACE.

"THE SINGLE BIT OF GOOD NEWS HERE IS THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DETECT THIS, AND THEREFORE CREATE AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM. SO, AT LEAST WE'LL KNOW WHEN ONE IS COMING.

"REGARDLESS, ONCE THE ***INCURSION*** ACTUALLY BEGINS, OUR TIME TO ACT GROWS VERY SHORT...

"AS EACH ***INCURSION*** LASTS EXACTLY 8 HOURS.

"AT THE END OF THOSE 8 HOURS, WHAT FOLLOWS IS EXTREMELY SIMPLE. EITHER BOTH WORLDS ARE DESTROYED, ALONG WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIVERSES, AS THEY SMASH TOGETHER...

"...OR ONE EARTH IS DESTROYED, WHICH ELIMINATES THE INCURSION POINT BETWEEN THE TWO UNIVERSES, SPARING THEM BOTH.

"EIGHT HOURS. ONE EVENT--TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES."

BE-DOOP!

NOW, ADMITTEDLY, THE BLACK SWAN COULD BE LYING--I DID NOT HAVE THAT MUCH TIME WITH HER AND I DEFINITELY THINK SHE'S LEAVING SOME THINGS OUT--BUT BIOMETRICS SHOWED NO SIGNS OF OUTRIGHT DECEPTION.

AND, OF COURSE, THERE'S THE MINOR POINT THAT SHE APPEARED TO DESTROY THE OTHER WORLD, THEREBY SPARING OURS AND SAVING HERSELF.

SO, FOR NOW, HER STORY CHECKS OUT.

EIGHT HOURS. THAT'S ALL WE'LL HAVE.

T'CHALLA?

NOW ALL OF YOU UNDERSTAND.

I DON'T ASK FOR THE COUNSEL OF OTHER MEN--I DON'T NEED IT. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CAPABLE OF MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE DECISION ON MY OWN. BUT THIS--IT IS BEYOND ME OR ANY SINGLE ONE OF US.

SO HERE WE ARE, AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE THAT JUST MIGHT BE THE EARTH'S ONLY HOPE.

HELP ME SAVE MY PEOPLE. HELP ME SAVE OUR WORLD--AND THE VERY *UNIVERSE* ITSELF.

NOT UNIVERSE. *UNIVERSES.*

ALL OF THEM. ALONG WITH ALL THE TWISTED, BROKEN AND SHATTERED REALMS IN BETWEEN.

THE SCALE OF THIS...IS INFINITE, AND THE STAKES...

I FEAR THE HARD CHOICES WE WILL SOON FACE, MY FRIENDS.

HARD CHOICES. *HA!*

OPEN YOUR EYES. THE WOMAN YOU HAVE IN CAPTIVITY DESTROYED AN ENTIRE WORLD--EXACTLY WHAT DO YOU THINK LIES ON THE PATH BEFORE US?

THE OCEANS HAVE TURNED TO BLOOD.

THE QUESTION YOU HAVE TO ASK IS, WHO HERE WOULD KILL TO SAVE THEIR WORLD?

RRRUUHHMMBBBLEE

GENTLEMEN. IF WE LOSE OUR HEADS--IF WE LOSE OUR ABILITY TO THINK CLEARLY, THEN WE HAVE NO HOPE.

WE HAVE A PROBLEM THAT DEMANDS A PERFECT SOLUTION.

TO FIND THAT, WE NEED TIME, AND WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO WORK WITHOUT TETHER, WHICH MEANS SECRECY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS, BUT AS ABHORRENT AS IT IS...

IF THIS IS THE END OF EVERYTHING, THEN PERHAPS IT'S BEST FOR EVERYTHING TO REMAIN ON THE TABLE WHILE WE SEARCH FOR AN ANSWER.

ANTHONY... WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?

THESE ARE NOT THINGS LIGHTLY SAID, CAPTAIN. WE ARE--

NO.

I WILL NOT TOLERATE--I WILL NOT ALLOW--ANY TALK OF THE NECESSITY OF NECESSARY EVIL.

I HAVE SPENT MY LIFE ON THAT LINE AND EVERY TIME I'VE SEEN SOMEONE CROSS IT, DEATH AND HORROR AND SHAME WAS WHAT FOLLOWED.

SO I REFUSE TO ENTERTAIN IT...

ESPECIALLY WHEN WE DON'T HAVE TO.

OH?

REMEMBER?

WE HAVE SOMETHING BETTER... WE JUST HAVE TO BE WILLING TO USE IT.

WE WOULD NEED ALL SIX OF THE GEMS TO BE SURE.

CHARLES XAVIER IS DEAD, AND THE LOCATION OF THE *MIND GEM* LOST WITH HIM.

NO. WE CAN USE THE FIVE WE HAVE TO FIND HIS--THE STONES *WANT* TO BE TOGETHER.

BE-DOOP

SO WE AGREE?

WE REASSEMBLE THE INFINITY GAUNTLET?

YES.

ANTHONY, T'CHALLA AND I CAN BEGIN CONSTRUCTING THE *INCURSION* EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.

WHILE NAMOR, BLACK BOLT AND I WILL FIND XAVIER'S GEM.

OKAY. GOOD.

NOW...I WANT EVERYONE TO LOOK AT ME.

YES, THIS IS MASSIVE. YES, IT IS *NIGHT.*

BUT REMEMBER, WE SHAPE THE WORLD... IT DOES NOT SHAPE US...

"IF WE DO NOT WAVER, WE CANNOT FAIL.

"YOU JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE.

"BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE...

"BELIEVE IN EACH OTHER...

"THIS IS ALL GOING TO WORK OUT.

"I KNOW IT."

LATER.

CAP AND THE OTHERS ARE PREPARING TO LEAVE--TONY HAS BEGUN ASSEMBLING THE EARLY WARNING DEVICE.

WELL, THEN...

IT APPEARS EVERYTHING'S GOING TO WORK OUT FINE...

BUT WE KNOW BETTER THAN THAT, DON'T WE?

INFINITE WORLDS. INFINITE OUTCOMES.

IF THIS COULD EASILY BE STOPPED...IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN STOPPED.

RIGHT. THE PROBLEM IS SYSTEMIC--INHERENT TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSE--AND UNABLE TO BE CORRECTED, OR...

GO ON.

WHICH MEANS THERE ARE TWO *MORE LIKELY* POSSIBILITIES....

IT'S NOT. AND SOMETHING IS ACTIVELY WORKING TOWARDS THE DEATH OF EVERYTHING.

REED... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO IF THIS PLAN DOESN'T WORK?

TONY WAS RIGHT.

WE NEED TIME, AND WE HAVE NONE. WE NEED CHOICES...SO *ALL POSSIBLE OPTIONS* MUST STAY ON THE TABLE.

WE WILL TRY EVERY GOOD AND RIGHTEOUS SOLUTION WE CAN.

AND IF THOSE DON'T WORK?

THEN WE TEACH OURSELVES TO DO THE UNTHINKABLE...

IT *BREAKS HOPE*--IT *CRUSHES* WHAT MAKES US DECENT AND *STEALS* WHAT LITTLE HONOR REMAINS.

YOU HAVE... *NO IDEA* WHAT IS COMING.

WE HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DESTROY A WORLD.

NEW AVENGERS

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

The hits just keep on coming with no sign of abating, and this month is no exception! The big story for January is the relaunch of **NEW AVENGERS**, now in the hands of scribe Jonathan Hickman and illustrator Steve Epting! Last time these guys got together, they killed the Human Torch and reinvented the Fantastic Four—so you can just imagine what they have in store for the Black Panther and the mysterious, clandestine Illuminati! It's only the end of not just our world, but every world—and it's coming your way twice this month to kick the series off in style!

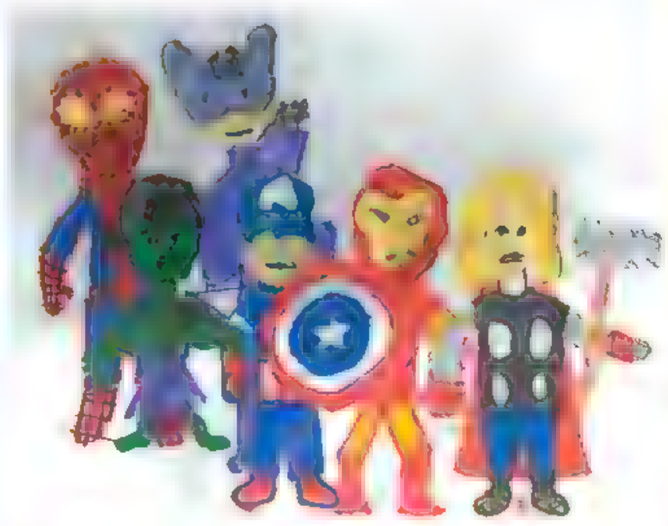
Also back in the spotlight this month is **YOUNG AVENGERS**, getting its own sparkly new first issue (with an in-demand variant by Scott Pilgrim's Bryan Lee O'Malley!) But this isn't quite the Young Avengers that you know—creators Kieron Gillen, Jamie McKelvie, Mike Norton and Matthew Wilson have mixed in some new faces along with the old! So be on the lookout for Loki, Marvel Boy, and Miss America as well as Hulkling, Wiccan and Hawkeye—in **YOUNG AVENGERS #1**!

One of the best things about being in this business is getting letters like this one!

Dear Marvel,

The first Marvel comic I got was the Avengers. I really liked it so I started getting more. I love to draw the Marvel super heroes and they've inspired me to make my own super hero team. For this drawing, I decided to make the faces out of plasticine for a more 3-D effect. I hope you like it. Thank you.

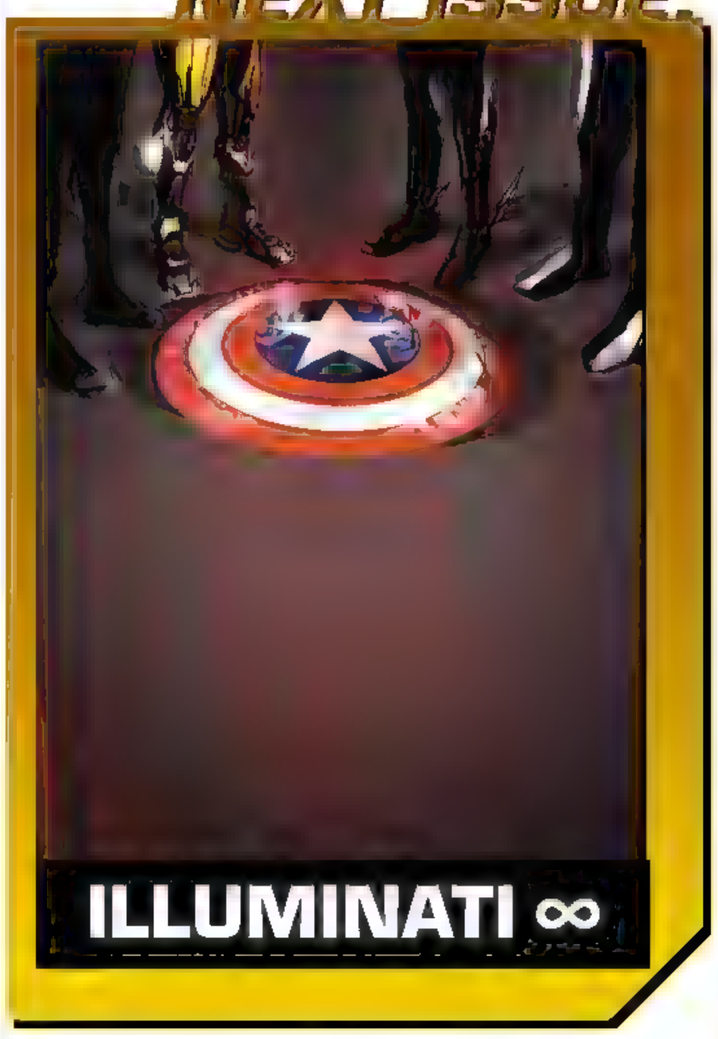
Sincerely,
Humphrey Hamma
Portland, OR



Brilliant work, Humphrey! Thanks for sharing it with us!

We're sorry if it seems like we're beating a dead horse, but we're just so knocked out by the response to the letter we printed a few months ago from Elizabeth Snee about her injured husband that we feel like we just have to share the good vibes with everyone! Among those that offered to send care packages of comics were Scott Randel, Zac Sutton, Stephen Davidson, Rachel Ward, Joan M. McHugh, Derek Callow, Joe Gentile, Santana Arjune, John Voulieris, Michael P. Falcone, and Borja Alcaraz, heroes all! Know that they have been awarded the Imperial Crest of No-Prizedom for their gallant efforts on behalf of our injured comrade, with our thanks!

NEXT ISSUE:



AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

UNCANNY AVENGERS #4
FINAL CONFLICT WITH THE RED SKULL'S S-MEN! AND, OH, THAT LAST PAGE!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #11
IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES UNTIL SOMEBODY LOSES AN IRON MAN!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE ANNUAL #1
THE VISION MUST MAKE A DRAMATIC CHOICE ABOUT HIS FUTURE!

AVENGERS #3
SHOWDOWN ON MARS! FEATURING EVERYBODY!

AVENGERS #4
ADAM KUBERT ILLUSTRATES AS THE SECRETS OF HYPERION ARE REVEALED!

NEW AVENGERS #1
THE RETURN OF THE ILLUMINATI!

NEW AVENGERS #2
ARE THE INFINITY GEMS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE THE EARTH?

SECRET AVENGERS #36
VENOM AND VALKYRIE INVADE THE CORE!

SECRET AVENGERS #37
FINAL ISSUE! IS DEATH THE ONLY WAY TO STOP FATHER'S DESCENDANTS?

AVENGERS ARENA #3
X-23 VS. ANNIHILATION'S CAMMI! PLUS: A BIG CHANGE FOR DARKHAWK!

YOUNG AVENGERS #1
THEY'RE BACK—BECAUSE SOMEONE HAS TO SAVE THE WORLD!

DARK AVENGERS #185
AT WAR WITH THE DEADLY DOCTOR STRANGE!

DARK AVENGERS #186
THE RETURN OF THE U.S.AGENT!

A + X #4
BEAST AND SPIDER-MAN FIND THEMSELVES IN A POST-APOCALYPTIC FUTURE, WHILE CAPTAIN AMERICA SPENDS SOME QUALITY TIME WITH QUENTIN QUIRE!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE vs THE AVENGERS #4

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #10

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

MARVEL NOW!

HICKMAN
EPTING
MAGYAR
D'ARMATA

NEW AVENGERS

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

003

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PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

I AM A *BLACK SWAN*--BUT NO MAN OR WOMAN CAN SUMMON AN INCURSION. WE SIMPLY LIVE WITH THE LOSS AND GIVE THE DESTROYER HIS DUE.

TELL ME... IF I TOLD YOU I CAME HERE TO KILL A WORLD, WOULD YOU TRY TO STOP ME?

EVERYTHING DIES. I ACCEPT IT. WHAT I FIND UNACCEPTABLE IS THE UNNATURAL ACCELERATION OF THAT END.

ON AN ALTERNATE EARTH AN *EVENT* OCCURRED THAT CAUSED THE EARLY DEATH OF ONE OF THESE UNIVERSES. THIS CAUSED A TINY CONTRACTION, SMASHING TWO UNIVERSES TOGETHER AT THE INCURSION POINT OF THE INITIAL EVENT.

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"EACH INCURSION LASTS EIGHT HOURS, AFTER WHICH EITHER BOTH WORLDS ARE DESTROYED...

"...OR ONLY ONE EARTH IS SACRIFICED, SPARING BOTH UNIVERSES."

I WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY TALK OF THE NECESSITY OF NECESSARY EVIL.

EVERY TIME I'VE SEEN SOMEONE CROSS THAT LINE, DEATH AND HORROR AND SHAME WAS WHAT FOLLOWED.

I REFUSE TO ENTERTAIN IT...

ESPECIALLY WHEN WE DON'T HAVE TO.

SO. WE REASSEMBLE THE INFINITY GAUNTLET.

AND IF IT DOESN'T WORK?

THEN WE TEACH OURSELVES TO DO THE UNTHINKABLE...

...WE HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DESTROY A WORLD.

THE ILLUMINATI

- HOLDERS OF THE INFINITY GEMS -

BLACK BOLT
Celestial Messiah

NAMOR
Imperius Rex
(THE POWER GEM)

REED RICHARDS
Universal Builder
(THE REALITY GEM)

IRON MAN
Master of Machines
(THE SPACE GEM)

CAPTAIN AMERICA
Hero of Legend
(THE TIME GEM)

DOCTOR STRANGE
Sorcerer Supreme
(THE SOUL GEM)

BLACK PANTHER
King of the Dead

PROFESSOR XAVIER
Deceased
(THE MIND GEM)

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“INFINITY”

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NEW YORK.

AS YOU KNOW, THE VARIOUS JOINT TRUSTS AND HOLDINGS THAT YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS NOW HAVE ACCESS TO REPRESENT THE MAJORITY OF THE ESTATE.

THERE WAS, HOWEVER, ONE ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE WILL FALLING OUTSIDE THE EXECUTOR'S PURVIEW THAT I WAS INSTRUCTED TO DISTRIBUTE PRIVATELY AND IN PERSON...

DOCTOR HENRY McCOY, CHARLES XAVIER WANTED YOU TO HAVE THIS.

OH, PROFESSOR...

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED TO US.

REMEMBER

I WILL HAVE BURIED THIS MEMORY DEEP WITHIN YOUR MIND, HENRY...

SO IF YOU ARE RECALLING IT, THAT MEANS YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE TRIGGER...

AND IT ALSO MEANS THAT I AM GONE.

I HOPE MY END WAS NOT IN VAIN.

FWSSHHH!

WE HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER LONG ENOUGH THAT WE'VE OUTGROWN IDEALIZED VIEWS OF ONE ANOTHER.

YEARS AGO, YOU STOPPED BEING JUST A BRILLIANT YOUNG STUDENT AND I AM CERTAINLY NO LONGER THE WISE PROFESSOR--I'VE BEEN AS MUCH A FOOL AS ANY MAN.

THE POINT BEING, I KNOW YOU, HENRY, AND YOU KNOW ME.

I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THE BURDEN I AM ABOUT TO PLACE ON YOU IS THE HIGHEST PRAISE I CAN OFFER.

I ALSO HOPE YOU CAN FIND IT IN YOUR HEART TO SOMEDAY FORGIVE ME WHEN YOU FIND OUT WHAT I HAVE DONE.

INSIDE HERE ARE JOURNALS. RECORDS OF CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES.

I HAVE BEEN PART OF SOMETHING THAT WAS BOTH NECESSARY AND UNTHINKABLE.

AND NOW, BECAUSE OF WHAT ELSE I HAVE LEFT IN HERE...SO MUST YOU.

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE SPECIAL, HENRY?

YOU ALWAYS TOLD ME I WAS.

GIFTED

OH MY...

AWWW SHIT

WELCOME TO THE RABBIT HOLE, DOCTOR McCOY.

PACK A BAG.

ONE DAY LATER.

YOU'RE GOING TO FEEL A SLIGHT PINCH.

YEEOOW!

COME NOW, HENRY...YOU'RE EMBARRASSING YOURSELF.

THE DEVICE WE'RE PLACING IN YOUR PALM SERVES SEVERAL FUNCTIONS, DOCTOR MCCOY.

THE FIRST IS AS A KIND OF LIMITED COMMUNICATION DEVICE--AN ALERT SYSTEM, IF YOU WILL.

THAT'S IT, STEPHEN...YOU CAN CLOSE HIM UP NOW.

IT WILL BROADCAST CERTAIN SIMPLE COMMANDS TO EACH OF US. *RUN. FIGHT. ASSEMBLE.* AND SO ON...

ASSEMBLE, YOU SAY? FUNNY THAT, BECAUSE I DON'T EVER REMEMBER ACTUALLY AGREEING TO JOIN UP WITH THIS LITTLE CABAL.

I'VE HEARD WHAT YOU'VE HAD TO SAY, AND...

I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD BE HERE.

THE BEAST MAKES A GOOD POINT, RICHARDS. WE SHOULD TAKE WHAT WE NEED AND SEND HIM ON HIS WAY.

THIS ONE LACKS THE CONSTITUTION FOR HARD DECISIONS.

THE PROFESSOR LEFT THE GEM FOR ME--ME, NOT YOU, NAMOR.

HE DID IT FOR A REASON.

I KNOW. JUST LIKE I KNOW CHARLES WOULD BE HERE IF HE WERE STILL ALIVE...WHICH IMPLIES HE MEANT FOR YOU TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

HE MARKED YOU, HENRY, JUST AS WE HAVE.

THAT DEVICE IN YOUR PALM WILL ALSO ACT AS A MULTIVERSAL HOMING BEACON, ENABLING US TO FIND YOU...NO MATTER IF YOU'RE IN THIS PLANE OR ANOTHER.

FINALLY, IT TIES INTO THIS...OUR EARLY WARNING SYSTEM WHICH SHOULD DETECT THE BEGINNING OF AN *INCURSION*.

WE'LL BE THE FIRST TO KNOW IF THE WORLD IS ENDING. T'CHALLA?

IT'S READY NOW, REED.

THEN LET'S TEST IT.

BE-DOOP!

WELL, THAT WORKS...

SO WHAT NOW?

NOW WE WAIT FOR ANOTHER APOCALYPSE.

AND HOPE LIKE HELL YOUR IDEA WORKS.

LATER.

WHAT ARE THESE CALLED AGAIN?

FRENCH FRIES.

DAMIQ BUBUSSUNU.

I HAVE RESTRAINED MYSELF FOR SO LONG...ONLY EATING WHAT I'M SURE YOU WOULD CONSIDER *NECESSARY SUSTENANCE*.

I HAD FORGOTTEN HOW WONDERFUL FOOD CAN... TASTE.

WELL, IT'S GOOD TO INDULGE YOURSELF FROM TIME TO TIME...

MAKES YOU FEEL ALIVE...MAKES YOU REMEMBER YOU'RE HUMAN.

FEH!

I AM YOUR PRISONER, SO I CAN ONLY EAT WHAT YOU PROVIDE...THAT MAKES THIS DISTRACTION--THIS WEAKNESS--YOURS AND NOT MINE, REED RICHARDS.

WE SHOULD FOCUS ON THE COMING DEATH OF YOUR WORLD.

HAVE YOU DECIDED ON MEEKNESS, ACCEPTING YOUR END, OR WILL YOU PREPARE AN OFFERING?

CONSIDER *THESE THINGS* INSTEAD OF... INDULGENCES.

ALL I THINK ABOUT ARE *THOSE THINGS*.

WE HAVE A PLAN.

A PLAN? TELL ME OF YOUR PLAN.

TELL *ME*, AND I WILL TELL *YOU* HOW FOOLISH IT IS.

WE HAVE THE INFINITY GEMS AND WE MEAN TO USE THEM TO REFORM THE INFINITY GAUNT--

WHAT ARE THESE... INFINITY GEMS?

THEY ARE ARTIFACTS OF IMMENSE POWER. THERE ARE SIX OF THEM. THE *POWER* GEM, THE *TIME* GEM, THE--

AH! YOU MEAN INA ABANAYYARTU...

THE STONES.

THIS IS A GOOD PLAN.

THE STONES WILL NOT WORK OUTSIDE THEIR NATIVE UNIVERSE, SO THEY HAVE LIMITATIONS.

BUT THE STONES WILL BUY YOU TIME.

THEN IT WILL BE ENOUGH.

SEE IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY WHEN YOUR TIME RUNS OUT.

...

I THINK WE'RE DONE FOR TODAY.

VERY WELL. THANK YOU FOR THE FRENCH FRIES, REED RICHARDS...THEY MADE EVERYTHING SO MUCH BETTER.

THE WORLD, SO MUCH BRIGHTER.

I PITY THE THINGS YOU *CLING* TO--THINKING THIS PROBLEM IS ONE THAT CANNOT BE SOLVED.

I DO NOT *BELIEVE* IN THAT.

YOU PITY ME? I PITY *YOU*.

THINKING YOU HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW ALL THIS ENDS.

ONE DAY LATER.

TWO DAYS LATER.

THREE DAYS LATER.

FOUR DAYS LATER.

RABUM ALAL.

GILGIT-BALTISTAN, PAKISTAN. NOW.

FWASH!

WE'RE HERE. SPREAD OUT AND...

WAIT... I DON'T SEE ANYTHING.

DURING THE EVENT IN WAKANDA, I TRIED TO JUMP US CLEAR, BUT THE *INCURSION* WALL PREVENTED IT.

I BELIEVE THE SAME WOULD HOLD FOR JUMPING IN-- IT'S HERE *SOMEWHERE.*

YES, I'M REGISTERING THE CORRECT HARMONICS, BUT--

I WAS GETTING TO IT. AH...

TIGHTEN THE BEAM.

"THERE! FORTY YARDS UP THE FACE OF THE MOUNTAIN."

LESS THAN SEVEN HOURS UNTIL COLLAPSE. WE'LL HAVE TO GET FASTER AT THIS.

06:37:45

I'VE FOUND THE WALL EDGE.

"I'M GOING IN."

MY GOD, IT'S ALMOST TOO MUCH...

AT THIS RANGE THERE SHOULD BE SOME ATMOSPHERIC DISTURBANCE. AT THE VERY LEAST MASSIVE WEATHER DISTORTION...INSTEAD IT'S...IT'S...

SERENE. QUIET. ALMOST LIKE THE WORLD HAS ALREADY SURRENDERED.

IT'S THE PHYSICS OF IT THAT'S INTERESTING. IF THE NORMAL LAWS DON'T APPLY, IT COULD BE HELPFUL. PRESENT MORE POSSIBILITIES.

BUT THAT'S FOR LATER... NOW, WE GET TO WORK.

FOCUS ON THE GEMS. IMAGINE THE SIX BECOMING ONE...

REMEMBER...THEY *WANT* TO BE TOGETHER.

THE MIND GEM.

THE REALITY GEM.

THE POWER GEM.

THE SPACE GEM.

THE TIME GEM.

THE SOUL GEM.

THEY WANT TO BE TOGETHER.

THE INFINITY GAUNTLET.

THE MOON.

UL'HUAT PRIME.

TITAN.

WHAT NOW?

WE IMPLEMENT YOUR PLAN AND USE THE GAUNTLET TO PUSH THE OTHER EARTH--THE OTHER *UNIVERSE*-- AWAY.

AND WHO WIELDS IT?

YOU DO.

FOR THIS, MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU, REED OR T'CHALLA WER--

NO. THIS STRATEGY WAS YOURS, AND THE GAUNTLET ACTS AS AN EXTENSION OF WILL.

YOU CANNOT MAKE AN IDEA REAL IF YOU DON'T FIRST BELIEVE IN IT.

WHAT RIDICULOUS NONSENSE.

NO. *IT ISN'T.*

PUT IT ON, STEVE.

SAVE THE WORLD...

OKAY.

STAND BACK...

AHHH!

POWER.

SO MUCH... *POWER.*

I CAN CONTROL THE HEAVENS...I CAN CONTROL THE EARTH.

THEN DO IT!

SEND IT BACK.

THAT EARTH IS LIKE AN ISLAND BREAKING THE SURFACE OF AN OCEAN. HE'S LITERALLY PUSHING AN ENTIRE UNIVERSE HIDDEN FROM US...AND, MY GOD, *AMAZING*...I THINK IT'S WORKING...

IT'S SLOWING DOWN.

IT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO STOP IT...

STEVE! *YOU HAVE TO PUSH IT AWAY! YOU HAVE TO SEND IT BACK TO* ***END THE INCURSION!***

RRAARRRRRRR!

IT'S GOING TO WORK. HE'S DONE IT.

YES, BUT.. BUT...CAN YOU FEEL THAT?

SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT. SOME VIBRATION. FEEDBACK...

THE MIND GEM.

THE REALITY GEM.

THE POWER GEM.

THE SPACE GEM.

THE TIME GEM.

THE SOUL GEM.

SHATTERED.

SHATTERED.

SHATTERED.

SHATTERED.

GONE.

SHATTERED.

WHAT WAS THAT?

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

THEY'RE GONE.

I GAVE IT ONE FINAL PUSH AND THE SKY SNAPPED BACK AND...AND...

THEY'RE JUST GONE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

I DO.

YOU JUST KILLED US ALL, YOU INCOMPETENT FOOL.

YOU'VE KILLED US ALL!

CRACK!

NAMOR! STOP!

NECROPOLIS.
LATER.

EVERYONE'S READY TO RECONVENE.

WE'VE BEEN SCREAMING AT EACH OTHER FOR HOURS, AND I JUST...

WELL, IT'S PEACEFUL OUT HERE.

THIS IS *SOME* PLACE.

NECROPOLIS IS A CITY POPULATED BY THE SPIRITS OF NOBLE WARRIORS WHO NEVER KNEW DEFEAT.

IT'S *YOUR* KIND OF PLACE.

WE HAVE TO GO.

IT'S TIME.

HOLD ON A SECOND.

I KNOW I'M LOCKED INTO SEEING THINGS AS BLACK AND WHITE, T'CHALLA-- THAT'S JUST WHO I AM. BUT THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING IN THERE...WHERE THE DISCUSSION IS HEADED...

EXPLORING ALL AVENUES... KEEPING OUR OPTIONS OPEN...

THEY'RE GOING TO DO IT. THEY ARE GOING TO TALK THEMSELVES INTO COMPROMISING WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE IN FOR EXPEDIENCY. JUST BECAUSE WE'RE DESPERATE, AND JUST BECAUSE IT'S *EASY*.

IT'S WRONG.

I'M NOT GOING TO JUST SIT THERE AND WATCH IT HAPPEN. I CAN'T.

SO BEFORE WE GO BACK IN THERE I NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING...

ARE YOU WITH ME?

WHEN HAVE YOU EVER KNOWN ME NOT TO DO THE RIGHT THING?

10 MINUTES LATER.

I'M SORRY.

I WANTED TO SAY THAT BEFORE WE GET STARTED.

I KNOW THAT TEMPERS ARE HIGH, AND I KNOW THE REASON FOR THIS MAY VERY WELL BE MY INABILITY TO USE THE GAUNTLET PROPERLY.

BUT...WELL, MAYBE I COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING DIFFERENTLY, BUT IT'S TOO LATE AND WE ALL HAVE REGRETS.

BUT I ALSO WANT YOU TO KNOW, IN SPITE OF ALL THE STRONG FEELINGS, WHERE WE ARE NOW IS THE SAME PLACE AS THE LAST TIME WE HAD THIS DISCUSSION.

THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE EXCEPT WE'VE HAD A SUCCESS--WE STOPPED AN INCURSION.

I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN... BUT I DISAGREE.

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE. WE'VE LOST THE INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH WE FOUND SUCCESS. THE GAUNTLET IS GONE, AND NOW WE HAVE NOTHING.

TELL ME, WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE'S ANOTHER INCURSION TEN MINUTES FROM NOW?

I BELIEVE WE'LL FIND A WAY TO STOP IT.

AND WE'LL DO IT WITHOUT SACRIFICING WHO WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE.

THAT'S JUST ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING, *I HOPE*, AND TODAY--AFTER WHAT WE'VE SEEN--HOW COULD I POSSIBLY FIND COMFORT IN THAT.

WELL, I THINK THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. TO TALK ABOUT IT. FIGURE THINGS OUT.

I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT, BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT SOME OF YOU AGREE WITH ME.

SOME OF US STILL BELIEVE IN DOING THINGS THE RIGHT WAY.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, T'CHALLA?

NO.

BUT YOU SAID...

I TOLD YOU I WOULD DO THE RIGHT THING. HOW I FEEL--MY PERSONAL DESIRES--MEAN NOTHING. MY PEOPLE ARE EVERYTHING.

IN THIS, I AM NOT A MAN. I AM A NATION.

AND I WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.

AND YOU, BLACK BOLT? IS YOUR CROWN HEAVY AS WELL?

WHAT DID YOU EXPECT, ROGERS?

THE PRESERVATION OF YOUR SOUL AT THE EXPENSE OF *EVERYTHING* WE HOLD DEAR?

WHAT ABOUT YOU, HANK?
CAN YOU STILL FIND HUMANITY IN THAT GIANT HEART OF YOURS?
WELL, FAR BE IT FROM ME TO ACT OBSTINATE IN THE FACE OF THE HISTORY YOU GENTLEMEN SHARE.
BUT ARE YOU SERIOUSLY ASKING A MUTANT WHAT HE'S PREPARED TO DO TO STAVE OFF EXTINCTION?
STEVE, IF I MAY.
YOUR DEMEANOR UNDERMINES THE CASE YOU'RE MAKING...
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THE DECISIONS WE'RE FACING AREN'T DIFFICULT FOR US AS WELL.
IT'S, WELL, QUITE INSULTING.
YOU WILL LOSE YOURSELF IN THIS, REED.
YOU'LL WAKE UP ONE DAY AND HAVE NO IDEA WHO IS LOOKING BACK AT YOU IN THE MIRROR.
YOU SEEM SURPRISED THAT I WOULD BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE MYSELF FOR MY FAMILY.
WHY?
I'M SORRY...
BUT I WON'T ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.
I KNOW YOU PEOPLE.
YOU'RE GOING TO BUILD A MACHINE OR SOME KIND OF WEAPON WITHOUT THINKING IF YOU SHOULD--JUST BECAUSE YOU MIGHT NEED IT.
AND THEN THE DEBATE WILL TURN FROM SHOULD WE BUILD THIS, TO UNDER WHAT DOOMSDAY SCENARIOS IS IT ACCEPTABLE TO USE THE THING?
AND THEN SLOWLY, ONE BY ONE, YOU'LL CONVINCE YOURSELVES.
WE'RE DOING THIS FOR THE RIGHT REASONS.
THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE.
IT'S THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, *BROTHER?*
DAMMIT, STEVE.
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE THIS WAY?
I'M SORRY...
I'LL FIND SOME WAY TO MAKE THIS RIGHT.
WHAT?
DO IT, STEPHEN.

I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN...WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

YOU WERE NEVER HERE.

YOU WILL REMEMBER NONE OF THIS.

"YOU PITY ME?

"I PITY YOU.

"THINKING YOU HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW ALL THIS ENDS."

NEW AVENGERS

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

The Marvel Now! train just keeps on a-chuggin' this month, with the debut of the all-new **SECRET AVENGERS #1**! It's a brand-new team with a brand-new mission as creators Nick Spencer and Luke Ross guide Nick Fury and Phil Coulson in assembling a crew of operatives for global missions so secret, even the heroes themselves can't know about them! If you loved the Black Widow sequence in the AVENGERS film (and, let's face it, who didn't?) then this is the book for you!

Two other Now! titles debuting this month that might be of interest to Avengers aficionados: Valkyrie and Misty Knight form the nucleus of a female-focused super-team in **FEARLESS DEFENDERS #1** by Cullen Bunn and Will Sliney! And the gone-but-not-forgotten Brian Michael Bendis teams with Steve McNiven to reveal the origin of Star-Lord in **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #0.1**! And both series come with the certified Avengers seal of approval!

You know what comic not enough of you are reading? **AVENGERS ASSEMBLE**! Want to know why you should? Here's a taste:

Dear Ms. DeConnick and Mr. Caselli,

I have just finished AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 and wanted to write to you immediately, partly because although I've never written to a comic before I wanted to contact you and show my appreciation, and partly to offer my hand in marriage to one or both of you, whatever you prefer.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 is the most perfect comic I've read since NEXTWAVE. I've been a huge fan of the Avengers for a while now, and Tony Stark in particular and his appearance in this was an absolute joy to read. Everyone was note-perfect, actually, and it's so rare, I think, to read a comic that's just so much fun and works the team dynamic so well. It's fantastic that Marvel isn't afraid to embrace the lighter side of super-heroics. I read it straight through three times, and then showed it to everyone else I met for the rest of the afternoon.

Thanks for such a great comic, and I can't wait to read issue #10!

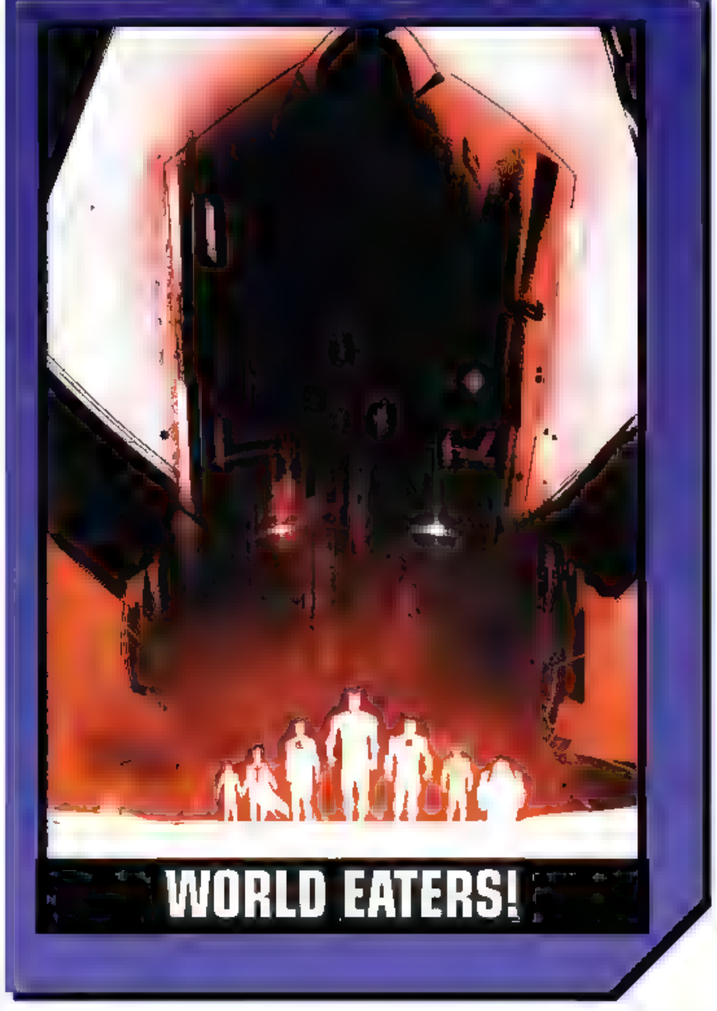
Olivia,
London, UK

And to close us out for the month, let's do another installment of Avengers Cosplay! This is Avengers fan Jason Childers rocking an outstanding classic Hawkeye outfit!

Photo by Judy Stephens for Marvel.com

There's no denying it, Jason—purple is definitely your color!

NEXT ISSUE:



AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

AVENGERS #5
THE ORIGIN OF SMASHER!
AVENGERS #6
REVEALED! THE SECRET OF CAPTAIN UNIVERSE!
AVENGERS ARENA #4
THE RUNAWAYS VS AVENGERS ACADEMY!
AVENGERS ARENA #5
MAYHEM AMONGST THE BRADDOCK ACADEMY!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #12
THE BLACK WIDOW'S LEDGER!
DARK AVENGERS #187
ESCAPE FROM KING THING'S TORTURE PIT!
NEW AVENGERS #3
THE RETURN OF THE ILLUMINATI!
SECRET AVENGERS #1
WE'D TELL YOU, BUT YOUR SECURITY CLEARANCE ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH!
UNCANNY AVENGERS #5
OLIVIER COIPEL! AND THREE NEW MEMBERS!
YOUNG AVENGERS #2
PARENTAL STRIFE! PLUS THE UNCANNY AVENGERS!
A + X #5
IRON MAN AND THE BEAST! IRON FIST AND DOOP!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #11

JONATHAN HICKMAN
RICK MAGYAR

MARVEL NOW!

STEVE EPTING
FRANK D'ARMATA

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

004

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PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

BLACK SWAN. I'M TOLD YOU JUMPED HERE FROM ANOTHER WORLD... THAT YOU HAD SOME KIND OF DEVICE, AND THEN YOU DESTROYED THE PLANET THAT YOU CAME FROM.

IT BREAKS *HOPE*--IT CRUSHES WHAT MAKES US DECENT AND STEALS WHAT LITTLE HONOR REMAINS.

I PITY THE THINGS YOU CLING TO--THINKING THIS PROBLEM IS ONE THAT CANNOT BE SOLVED.

I PITY *YOU*. THINKING YOU HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW ALL THIS ENDS.

"WE WILL TRY EVERY GOOD AND RIGHTEOUS SOLUTION WE CAN."

"AND IF THOSE DON'T WORK?"

"THEN WE WILL HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DESTROY A WORLD."

YOU'RE GOING TO BUILD A MACHINE OR SOME KIND OF WEAPON WITHOUT THINKING IF YOU SHOULD--JUST BECAUSE YOU MIGHT NEED IT. THEN SLOWLY, OVER TIME, YOU'LL CONVINCE YOURSELVES.

I WON'T ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.

DAMMIT, CAP. WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE THIS WAY?

DO IT, STEPHEN.

I'M SORRY, CAPTAIN...WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

YOU WERE NEVER HERE.

YOU WILL REMEMBER NONE OF THIS.

THE ILLUMINATI

BLACK BOLT

Celestial Messiah

NAMOR

Imperius Rex

REED RICHARDS

Universal Builder

IRON MAN

Master of Machines

BEAST

Mutant Genius

DOCTOR STRANGE

Sorcerer Supreme

BLACK PANTHER

King of the Dead

00

"WORLD EATER"

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PENCILER: STEVE EPTING
INKER: RICK MAGYAR
COLOR ARTIST: FRANK D'ARMATA
LETTERER: VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
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NECROPOLIS.

SO THIS IS WHAT SHE USED?

YES. IT ACTIVATES AN INJECTION SEQUENCE.

FOR A BOMB?

NOT JUST A BOMB. THE FIRST THING REED AND I DID WAS REVERSE-ENGINEER THE TRIGGER.

IT'S NOW RATHER APPARENT THE BLACK SWAN USED AN ANTIPROTON SLING TO DESTROY THE EARTH SHE JUMPED FROM.

WELL, YOU GOTTA ADMIT, THERE'S A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DARK POETRY TO USING AN ANTIMATTER BOMB TO KILL A WORLD.

IS YOUR VERSION DONE?

NOT YET. WE NEED ANOTHER DAY OR SO TO FINISH UP THIS DESIGN.

AND, WELL, PROBABLY ANOTHER DAY BEYOND THAT TO RUN SIMULATIONS.

I'M KIND OF SURPRISED IT TOOK THE TWO OF YOU THIS LONG...

WERE THERE SETBACKS?

DISAGREEMENTS. PANTHER?

THE FIRST MODEL HAD... DESIGN FLAWS.

SOME OF US PREFER A SCALPEL TO A SWORD.

AND SOME OF US HAVEN'T SPENT ENOUGH TIME WITH SWORDS.

ALL RIGHT, FORGET IT... HERE.

PUT THESE ON.

THESE LOOK LIKE SHI'AR OMNICASTERS. MILITARY GRADE, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.

WHAT IS THIS, TONY?

AND WHY DO YOU KEEP LOOKING AT YOUR WATCH?

AVOIDING PRYING EYES MEANS YOU HAVE A VERY SMALL WINDOW IN WHICH TO BOUNCE A SIGNAL TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SUN.

WINDOW'S OPEN, GENTLEMEN.

LET'S TAKE A LITTLE WALK...

...I WANT TO SHOW YOU MY SOLUTION TO OUR LITTLE PROBLEM.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

YOU'RE BUILDING A DYSON SPHERE.

WELL...I LIKE ***STARK SPHERE,*** BUT APPARENTLY THE COMPANY IS ALREADY USING THAT FOR SOMETHING ELSE. I'VE GOT TO GET BETTER MARKETING PEOPLE.

WHEN THE FIRST PHASE IS COMPLETE THIS WILL ENABLE US TO START CAPTURING, AND CONTROLLING, THE POWER OF OUR LOCAL SUN.

YOU'RE GOING TO ***WEAPONIZE*** A STAR?

I FIGURE IF OUR SITUATION IS FORCING ME TO GET BACK INTO THE ARMS BUSINESS...

...WHY NOT GET EXOTIC?

I'VE GOT SOME OF THE BEST SHI'AR CONTRACTORS PRECIOUS METALS CAN BUY.

AND I'M HOPING TO BE OPERATIONAL WITHIN A MONTH.

VERY IMPRESSIVE, ANTHONY.

IMPRESSIVE ENOUGH. WE ONLY NEED THE SPHERE TO BE AROUND TWO PERCENT COMPLETE AND THEN...

WELL, WE'LL GET TO THAT WHEN WE GET TO IT. THE ONLY THING LEFT IS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO CALL IT.

SOL'S HAMMER.

WHAT?

"IT'S CALLED SOL'S HAMMER."

THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM OF DOCTOR STRANGE.

I'VE PREPARED TEA, DOCTOR.

THANK YOU, WONG.

THE TABLE IS FINE.

IT'S VERY HOT, SO YOU--

AAIIEEE!

WHAT DARK CLOUD DEMANDS THIS EVIL?

DOCTOR, NO SPELL IN THE BLU'DAKORR HAS EVER NOT CAUSED THE DEATH OF THE CASTER. TO TOUCH IT STAINS THE SOUL.

LEGEND SAYS, IT REQUIRES THE SPIRITS OF FORTY FALLEN MEN.

YES, WONG... FORTY OF THE FALLEN...

BUT ALSO ONE OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

OH, THAT WE COULD FIND SUCH A MAN.

I DO NOT FEAR THE COST, MY FRIEND.

FEAR THAT I HAVE REASON TO OPEN IT.

FEAR WHAT FUELS MY URGENCY...

DOCTOR!

YOUR HAND!

AND FEAR MOST OF ALL...

TIME SLIPPING AWAY.

I HAVE TAKEN SOME ACTIONS TO ENABLE MORE...FLEXIBILITY IN THE MANAGING OF MY ESTATE, WONG.

YOU'LL FIND THE PAPERWORK IS ON MY DESK IN THE DOWNSTAIRS STUDY.

I LEAVE ALL THAT I POSSESS IN YOUR CARE.

YOU UNNERVE ME, STEPHEN.

MY FRIEND, FROM THIS POINT FORWARD TREAT EACH MOMENT OF EACH DAY AS IF IT WERE YOUR LAST.

AS IT VERY WELL MAY BE.

AM I GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN?

I CARRY THE BLOOD BIBLE, WONG...

IT WOULD SEEM UNLIKELY.

ELLIS ISLAND.
NEW YORK.

OKAY, SURE...

GIVE US YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR, YOUR DYING, BROKEN WORLDS.

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS THINKING THESE THINGS WOULD BE CONFINED TO REMOTE LOCATIONS...

YES, WORD WOULD CERTAINLY SPREAD. IT WOULD BE A CONCERN...

IF OUR SITUATION DIDN'T MAKE THAT ALL IRRELEVANT.

MY GOD... YOU FOOLS HAVE *NOTHING*, DO YOU?

T'CHALLA AND I HAVE A WAY TO CHANNEL AN ULTIMATE NULLIFIER THROUGH A VIBRANIUM BARREL...

INSTANTLY VAPORIZING THE INCURSION SITE OF THAT WORLD ALONG WITH THE SURROUNDING ONE HUNDRED SQUARE MILES.

THERE'S SOME EVIDENCE THIS WILL INTERRUPT THE EVENT, BUT IT WILL ALSO...KILL THE USER. STILL, IT MIGHT BE WORTH IT AT TRIPLE THE COST.

BECAUSE REGARDING ALL THE OTHER OPTIONS WE CAME UP WITH...

WE SIMPLY RAN OUT OF TIME.

AND I FELT SO DAMN CLEVER EARLIER TODAY.

ACTUALLY...I HAVE AN IDEA WE SHOULD CONSIDER.

THAT EARTH, AND THAT UNIVERSE, SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN SET OF INFINITY GEMS.

MAYBE WE USE THEM AND TRY TO BUY OURSELVES A WHILE LONGER.

YOU'RE ASSUMING THEY CAN BE FOUND IN TIME, AND THAT THEY CAN EVEN BE ACQUIRED.

TO SAY NOTHING OF THE GEMS ONLY WORKING IN THEIR NATIVE UNIVERSE. THEREFORE, THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE USED FROM THAT SIDE.

MEANING SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO STAY THERE.

THEN, IN THAT CASE, WE SHOULD TRY IT...

FOR IF WE FAIL, I HAVE SOMETHING PREPARED THAT REQUIRES ME BEING ON THE OTHER EARTH TO INVOKE--SOMETHING WORSE, WITH ROUGHLY THE SAME COST...

WHICH IS?

UNSPEAKABLE. AND IT WILL REMAIN SO.

THEN NO MATTER WHAT...

ONE OF US ISN'T COMING BACK.

HA! HA! HA!

LET HOPE DIE, YOU FOOLS...

IT'S TIME TO EMBRACE OBLIVION.

WE ARE ALREADY DEAD.

OH MY...

MANY WORLDS.

ALL OF THEM CANNOT BE OURS.

ADMIT IT, HENRY...

THE IDEA EXCITES YOU A LITTLE, DOESN'T IT?

WE HAVE JUST OVER SIX HOURS. CALL IT FOUR, IF WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE TIME FOR STEPHEN TO DO WHATEVER HE PLANS.

IN TRANSIT, REED AND I PUT SOME THOUGHT INTO WHERE WE START.

SNAP!

GOOD. BECAUSE FRANKLY, I DON'T HAVE A--

BLACK BOLT, WHAT IS...

OH!

SURE... WHY NOT?

I'LL HAVE TO GET A CLOSER LOOK...

BUT IT APPEARS HE'S ASSEMBLED A CONVERSION MACHINE TO ACCELERATE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WORLD.

IF IT'S ANYTHING LIKE THE ONES I'VE SEEN GALACTUS BUILD IN THE PAST, IT WILL REACH CRITICAL MASS WITHIN MINUTES OF BEING ACTIVATED.

WE'LL HAVE TO GO NOW IF WE HAVE ANY HOPES OF...

...STOPPING...

OH.

WE CAN'T JUST LET THESE PEOPLE...

WE HAVE *TO TRY.*

OF COURSE WE DO.

HOW COULD WE NOT?

EASILY.

AND BE ALL THE BETTER FOR IT.

AFTER ALL, AN INCURSION'S NO PLACE FOR CONSCIENCE...

OR SO I'VE HEARD.

BESIDES...

YOU'RE TOO LATE.

"GALAKTUS HUNGERS."

WAIT. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT AN INCURSION IS?

HOW DID YOU KNOW TO BE HERE...

OR EVEN HOW TO FIND IT?

THE UNIVERSE IS VAST, HUMAN...

AND I AM TERRAX, THE TRULY ENLIGHTENED.

THERE HAVE BEEN WHISPERS, UNCOVERED SECRETS, AND RUMORS SPREAD BY REFUGEES.

I KNOW MANY, MANY THINGS...

AND CLEARLY, YOU DO NOT.

RRUMBLE

YOU SHOULD RUN NOW.

SOMETHING GLORIOUS IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.

NO IT ISN'T. NOT YET.

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE, HENRY?

FIVE HOURS.

YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO STOP US, I SUPPOSE?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL, DO YOU?

YOU'RE JUST MEN.

I CAN TELL THAT YOU RECOGNIZE ME. CLEARLY, YOU KNOW MY MASTER.

BUT BEYOND THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO...I HAVE NO IDEA WHO YOU PEOPLE ARE.

GALAKTUS IS A UNIVERSAL CONSTANT.

HE MUST BE THERE AT THE END OF EACH UNIVERSE. BUT BECAUSE OF THIS WORLD, THE UNIVERSES ARE DYING TOO SOON.

SO WE WILL UNMOOR OUR UNIVERSE BY KILLING THIS WORLD.

JUST AS IN YOUR UNIVERSE, THE SAME WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR EARTH.

AND THERE IS MORE THAN JUST MY MASTER TO ACCOUNT FOR.

SO PLEASE, GO HOME.

ACCEPT THE GREATER GOOD--ACCEPT YOUR GOOD FORTUNE--AND LET THIS EARTH DIE.

"OR WE COULD PLAY WARRIORS WHILE A WORLD CRUMBLES AROUND US...

"PRETENDING LIKE THIS IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DEFEAT WITH YOUR FISTS."

WELL? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

It's been a long time in coming—since last year's Free Comic Book Day at least! But at last, it's time to prepare for the **AGE OF ULTRON**—a monster storyline from the mind of Brian Michael Bendis and the drawing boards of Bryan Hitch, Brandon Peterson and Carlos Pacheco! The unstoppable A.I. known as Ultron strikes—and before the Marvel Universe knows what's happening, it's all over! And that's just where the story begins! For maximum excitement, AGE OF ULTRON will be coming at you multiple times each month (the first three amazing issues all shipping in March!) along with dedicated tie-in issues of your favorite titles!

This is the first month in forever that doesn't have a new Avengers-affiliated Marvel Now! title launching! So we figured this would be a good time to catch our breath, go to the mail bag, and get a sense of what you guys have thought about our dramatic creative relaunches:

I really did enjoy UNCANNY AVENGERS #1. John Cassaday's art alone is worth the price of admission.

–Chris Lopez

I just read UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 and I found it fascinating. There are so many great ideas exploited by Remender.

–Arcadio Bolaños

I loved AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 and am so looking forward to see what Kelly & Stefano have in store for us. The snappy dialogue and perfect characterization was a welcome breath of fresh air.

–Rachael Sherwood

UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 was AMAZING! SPECTACULAR! UNCANNILY AWESOME! I really cannot wait to see where the series goes and what arcs you guys have in store for us in the future.

–Isaac Orr-Green

LOVE the direction you are taking this book!!!! I wasn't a huge fan of Rogue but she is coming off as a very powerful character, and less whiny.

–Joseph D. Urbick

It has been a long time since I have sent an email into Marvel after reading a comic book but after reading AVENGERS #1 I had to write to say job well done!

–Scott Zachry

While I was a little sad to see J. Hickman leave FANTASTIC FOUR and FF, I´m glad he´s now writing AVENGERS. It´s just what the title needed!

–Iñigo Pm

I just finished AVENGERS #1, and as a 57 year old long time comic book reader, I have to say I was extremely disappointed. While I understand that it's simply the first issue, it seemed unstructured, "overwritten" and confusing with no clear cut point of view.

–Mike Vadis

I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know that I really enjoyed issue #9 of the AVENGERS ASSEMBLE series. It was difficult for me to stifle my heinous giggling at the hijinks of Stark and Thor vs. Spider-Woman and Hulk, and I actually had someone come over to me and ask what I was enjoying so much!

–Nikki N.

I was pleasantly surprised. The art by Jerome Opena has come a long way since UNCANNY X-FORCE #1. Hyperion, Smasher, a new Captain Universe? Pretty cool new members, too!

–Andrew J. Shaw

Just wanted to comment on how great this first AVENGERS issue is. The villains are intriguing and compelling right from the get-go. I love that the writing is drawing from classic religious references like Ex Nihilo. It makes the story and dialogue feel rich and interesting.

–Jenny Tarof

I'm absolutely loving the new era - love Jonathan Hickman's writing, love Jerome Opena's artwork - and I understand that the whole point of this story-arc is for the new Avengers team to save the butts of the old Avengers team. So you de-power Iron Man's armor, and you mind-control the Hulk, fine, fine - but in issue #2, you have Thor hanging helpless wrapped in...vines. Vines, people! Try remembering: he's not 'normal guy plus enchanted hammer' - he's 'Hulk-strong guy plus enchanted hammer.' Yeesh.

–Steve Donoghue

I am glad to see the Black Panther back on the scene and making big moves. He is my favorite character. He's also a great choice to lead the New Avengers.

–Vincent

Wow! This is one of the most beautiful books that I've seen in a long time. It's edgy and simply put, utterly brilliant.

–Brian Chamberlin

I was on the fence about AVENGERS... until I saw Cannonball and Sunspot recruited! Cannonball has been my absolute favorite character for years and Sunspot is next in line. Please let them represent the X by kicking major butt as Avengers!

–Isaac Woodby

I have loved comics since I was a kid (I'm 31 now). I started collecting them again with the introduction of Marvel Now! I have yet to be disappointed. I just finished reading UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and all I can say is Wow! That was one heck of a fun roller coaster ride. I loved seeing the Red Skull lose his hand and then Thor bowing down and pledging allegiance at the end. I can't wait to see what you guys do with the apocalypse storyline that is still to come.

–Norman Shane Noah

Well, you've done it. You have officially won me over...big time! I just finished UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and I had to pick my jaw up off of the floor. Not only that, but for the first time in a long time, I can truly say that I have no idea what is going to happen next.

–Steven Taylor

NEXT ISSUE:

WORLDS IN THE BALANCE!

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE:

AVENGERS #7
THE LAST WHITE EVENT!
AVENGERS #8
WHO IS THE NEW STAR BRAND?
AVENGERS ARENA #6
ANOTHER SHOCKING DEATH ENDS THE FIRST STORY ARC!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #13
THE BLACK WIDOW STANDS IN JUDGMENT FOR THE SINS OF HER PAST!
DARK AVENGERS #188
AT WAR WITH IRON MAN!
NEW AVENGERS #4
WORLD EATER! AND THAT CAN ONLY MEAN...GALACTUS!
SECRET AVENGERS #2
NICK FURY AND TASKMASTER MUST ESCAPE FROM BAGALIA, THE RED LIGHT NATION!
UNCANNY AVENGERS #6
THOR VS APOCALYPSE AT THE DAWN OF TIME!
YOUNG AVENGERS #3
WHO'S WORSE THAN LOKI? HIS FATHER...
A + X #6
CAPTAIN MARVEL AND WOLVERINE! PLUS, IRON MAN AND BEAST!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #12

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

JONATHAN HICKMAN
RICK MAGYAR

MARVEL NOW!

STEVE EPTING
FRANK D'ARMATA

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PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

WE HAVE A PLAN. THE INFINITY GEMS. WE MEAN TO USE THEM TO RE-FORM THE INFINITY GAUNTLET.

THIS IS A GOOD PLAN.

THE STONES WILL NOT WORK OUTSIDE THEIR NATIVE UNIVERSE, SO THEY HAVE LIMITATIONS.

BUT THE STONES WILL BUY YOU TIME.

THEN IT WILL BE ENOUGH.

"SEE IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY WHEN YOUR TIME RUNS OUT."

THE OTHER EARTH SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN SET OF INFINITY GEMS. MAYBE WE USE THEM TO TRY TO BUY OURSELVES A WHILE LONGER.

THE GEMS ONLY WORK IN THEIR NATIVE UNIVERSE. THEREFORE, THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE USED FROM THAT SIDE.

MEANING SOMEONE WOULD HAVE TO STAY THERE.

YOU ARE TOO LATE. I AM TERRAX, THE TRULY ENLIGHTENED. MY MASTER, GALAKTUS, IS A UNIVERSAL CONSTANT. HE MUST BE THERE AT THE END OF EACH UNIVERSE. BUT THE UNIVERSES ARE DYING TOO SOON.

SO WE WILL UNMOOR OUR UNIVERSE BY KILLING THIS WORLD. PLEASE, GO HOME. ACCEPT THE GREATER GOOD--ACCEPT YOUR GOOD FORTUNE--AND LET THIS EARTH DIE...

...OR WE COULD PLAY WARRIORS WHILE A WORLD CRUMBLES AROUND US...PRETENDING THIS IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DEFEAT WITH YOUR FISTS.

THE ILLUMINATI

BLACK BOLT

Celestial Messiah

NAMOR

Imperius Rex

REED RICHARDS

Universal Builder

IRON MAN

Master of Machines

BEAST

Mutant Genius

DOCTOR STRANGE

Sorcerer Supreme

BLACK PANTHER

King of the Dead

"BLACK SWANS"

WRITER: JONATHAN HICKMAN

PENCILER: STEVE EPTING

INKERS: RICK MAGYAR w/ STEVE EPTING
COLOR ARTIST: FRANK D'ARMATA
LETTERER: VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
COVER ART: JOCK
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ASSISTANT EDITOR: JAKE THOMAS
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NECROPOLIS.

SO YOU'RE FINALLY READY TO HEAR *REAL* ANSWERS...

GOOD.

ONE CAN ONLY BE IN TOTAL DARKNESS FOR SO LONG BEFORE PANIC SETS IN.

THIS IS A TRUTH--TRUE EVEN FOR THOSE WHO DARE TO LIVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SHADOWS.

BUT DO NOT COME TO ME LIKE THIS, A KEEPER TO HIS CAPTIVE.

IF YOU WANT MY HELP, YOU HAVE TO ASK ME PROPERLY.

OR NOT AT ALL.

I DO WANT YOUR HELP.

I HAVE NO EGO ABOUT THESE THINGS, AND I HAVE NO TROUBLE ASKING...

MY CONCERN IS THAT THERE'S A PRICE.

FEH! THE WHEEL CONTINUES TO TURN, *REED RICHARDS.*

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO INCURSIONS SINCE I HAVE BEEN YOUR PRISONER. WE LIVE, SO MY PRAYERS WERE HEARD AND ANSWERED.

THE GREAT SHADOW OF RABUM ALAL PASSED OVER THIS WORLD.

YOU WITNESSED THIS, BUT REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GIFT HE GAVE YOU.

MY PRICE...

CRRACCK!

...IS *LIVING...* YOU FOOLISH, FOOLISH MAN.

WELL?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SHE'S READY.

LET HER OUT.

WARRIOR...

WE MEET AGAIN.

UH-HUH.

CRACKING THE CELL WALL WAS IMPRESSIVE. YOU'RE STRONGER THAN REED ESTIMATED...

SO WHO SITS IN A CAGE THAT DOES NOT HAVE TO?

THE TILES IN THIS FLOOR DEPRESSED WHEN I STEPPED ON THEM-- ONLY A MILLIMETER, BUT STILL... THE WALL, WHILE FORMIDABLE, WAS JUST A WALL.

THE REAL CAGE IS THE BOMB UNDERNEATH.

THAT'S CORRECT. AND THAT BOMB'S YIELD IS ROUGHLY EQUAL TO WHAT'S IN THIS NECKLACE.

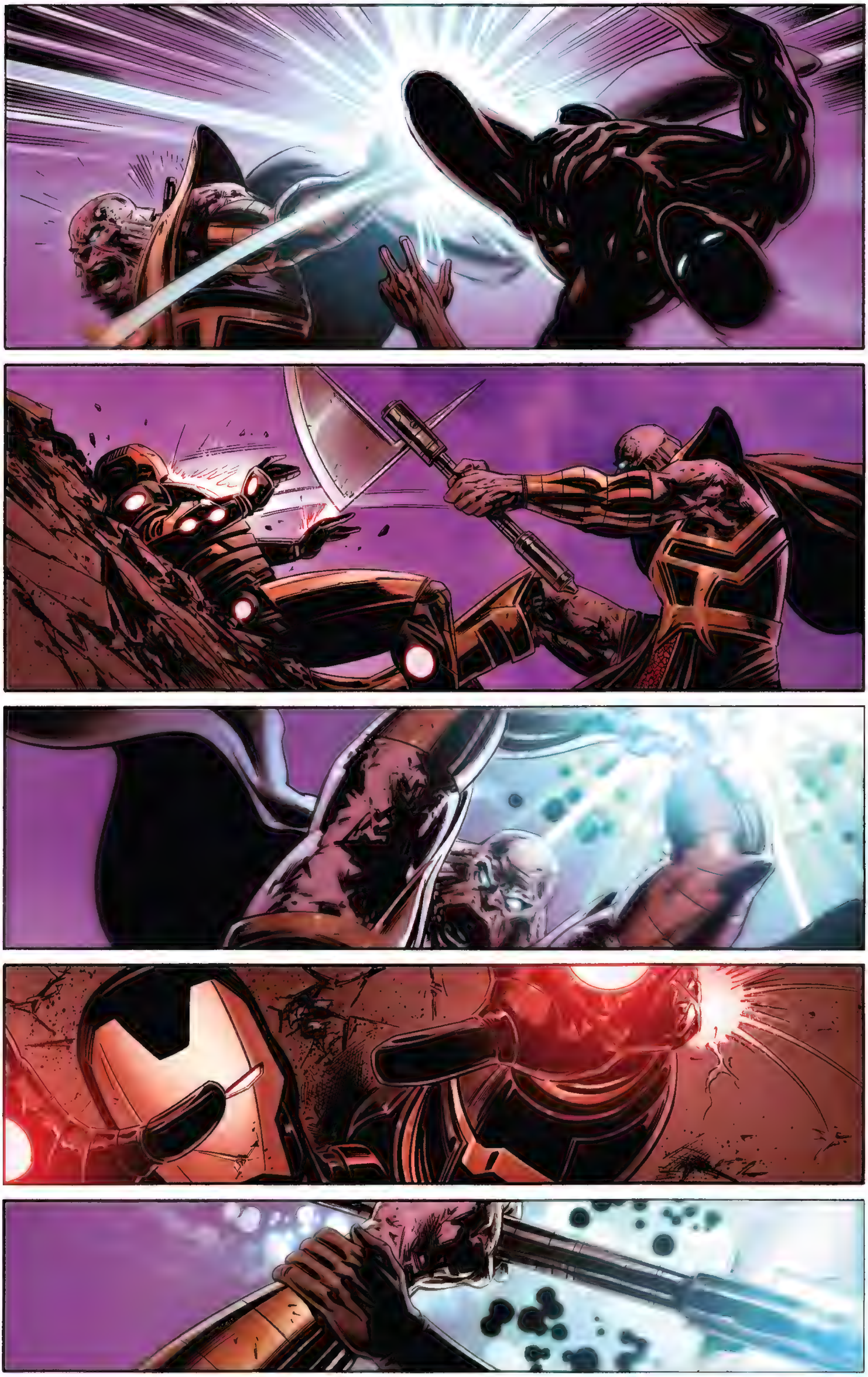
SO...BE *USEFUL*. NOT THE OTHER THING.

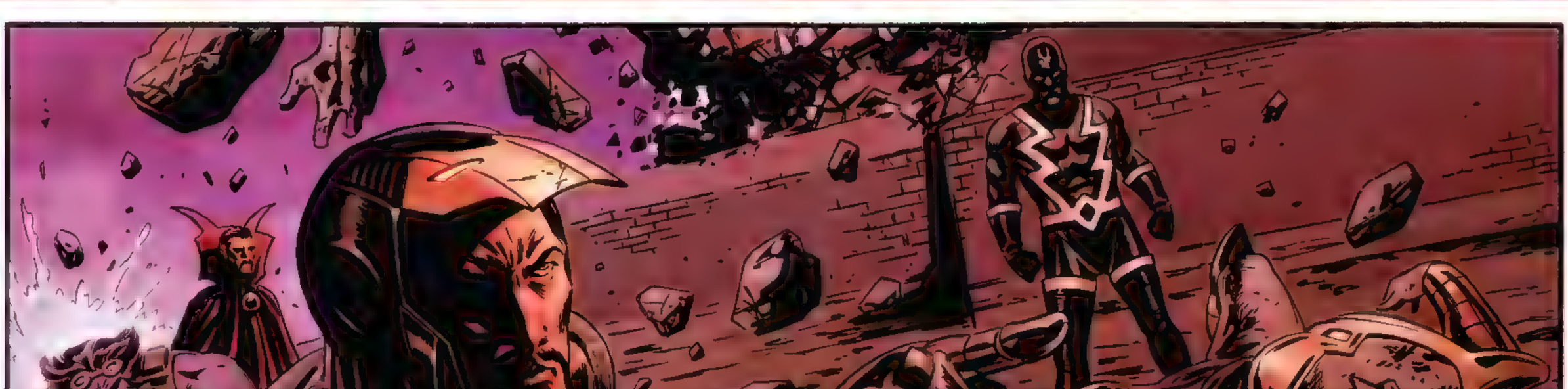
YOU THINK SOME LEASH CAN HOLD ME?

I AM NOT SOMEONE TO BE KEPT...

DO I LOOK LIKE HIM?

ONE WEEK AGO.





NOW.

SO...

WE NEED ONE ANOTHER.

OH, I THINK SOME OF US MIGHT HAVE GREATER NEEDS THAN OTHERS.

DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT?

ARE YOU HOLDING OUT HOPE THAT A SERVANT OF A WORLD EATER IS GOING TO TELL YOU HOW TO SAVE A PLANET--TO SAVE *YOUR* PLANET?

IS THAT WHY YOU BROUGHT HIM BACK WITH YOU?

MAYBE. MAYBE NOT.

EITHER WAY, YOU'RE GOING GET HOWEVER MUCH ROPE WE CHOOSE TO GIVE YOU.

THE LENGTH OF WHICH DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON HOW HELPFUL WE FIND YOU.

FAIR ENOUGH.

I KNOW YOU UNDERSTAND THE MECHANICS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING...I HAVE GIVEN YOU THAT ALREADY.

BECAUSE I AM SO VERY GIVING.

BUT YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT IS YOU'RE *ACTUALLY* DEALING WITH.

WHY DON'T YOU TELL US THEN?

WHO IS THIS MAN?

MY NAME IS STEPHEN STRANGE. A MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, AND SORCERER SUPREME OF THIS REALM.

I AM THE DOCTOR.

PTOO!

A NECROMANCER. A SUMMONER.

I WILL NOT TOLERATE THIS MAN SPEAKING TO ME.

HRMPH.

SEEMS SHE'S GOT YOU PEGGED, STEPHEN.

I LIKE HER.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST BEGIN WITH WHAT WE DON'T KNOW.

HEH. A VIRTUALLY INFINITE AMOUNT OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE MULTIVERSE AND YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW...

REMEMBER YOU AND I TALKING ABOUT TIME, AND HOW VERY LITTLE OF IT YOU HAVE?

WE'LL ADAPT AND REFOCUS AS YOU PROGRESS. FOR NOW...START AT THE BEGINNING.

AH...THE BEGINNING...

"THERE WAS *EVERYTHING.*

"FOLLOWED BY *NOTHING.*

"A SWIRLING, GAPING MAW THAT SWALLOWED LIFE-GIVING SUNS.

"AND THEN...

"WE COWERED IN THE *NIGHT.*

"I WAS FOUR WHEN WE LOST THE HEIGHTS.

"MY NAME THEN WAS YABBAT UMMON TARRU, THIRD SISTER TO THE CROWN PRINCE, DADINGRA.

"MY BROTHER WAS HEIR TO THE THRONE OF THE HIDDEN CITY, AND KEEPER OF THE GREAT KEY.

"THE KEY UNLOCKED THE CITY'S--OUR PLANET'S--GREATEST TREASURE, A LIBRARY OF WORLDS. A GIFT FROM SINNU SARRUM, THE IVORY KINGS.

"DADINGRA HAD THE KEY, AND HE COULD OPEN THE DOOR, BUT THE LIBRARY COULD NOT BE NAVIGATED BY THE UNTRAINED.

"LEGEND SAID THAT ONLY THE GREAT LADIES--WHOM NONE OF OUR PEOPLE HAD EVER SEEN--COULD FIND THEIR WAY THROUGH THE TWISTED PATHS BETWEEN WORLDS.

"STILL, EVERY DAY MY BROTHER UNLOCKED AND OPENED THE DOOR HOPING THE LADIES MIGHT APPEAR.

"HE DID THIS EVERY SINGLE DAY...

"UNTIL THE SKY TURNED RED.

"THE BLACK PRIESTS DESCENDED FROM THEIR EARTH TO OURS. NO ONE WAS SPARED, NO ONE ESCAPED--EXCEPT ME.

"BECAUSE I TOOK THE KEY.

"AND OPENED THE DOOR...

"AND FOUND THE GREAT LADIES WAITING FOR ME INSIDE."

"THEY SAID MY WORLD WAS AN OFFERING TO THE GREAT DESTROYER, RABUM ALAL.

"I ACCEPTED HIS MERCY FOR WHAT IT WAS, A GIFT. JUST AS I ACCEPTED MY NEW SISTERS.

"I WAS RAISED A BLACK SWAN BY BLACK SWANS."

FIRST, THEY TAUGHT ME HOW TO--

WAIT.

SWANS. THERE ARE MORE OF YOU?

OF COURSE.

AND THIS LIBRARY OF WORLDS-- IS IT SOME TYPE OF WAY STATION FOR MULTIVER--

IT IS DESTROYED NOW.

THE SWANS SCATTERED.

WELL, THAT'S TOO BAD.

BUT I THINK YOU OMITTED SOME PARTS OF YOUR STORY. QUITE A BIT. YOUR BAD FICTION SKIPPED SEVERAL BILLION YEARS, GIVE OR TAKE.

WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHAT CAUSED ALL OF THIS TO HAPPEN?

I TOLD REED RICHARDS, AND THEN I ASSUME HE TOLD YOU...

THERE WAS AN EVENT. THE BIRTH OF RABUM ALAL, THE GREAT DESTROYER.

"AT HIS BIRTH, THE EARLY DEATH OF EVERYTHING BEGAN.

"SO WE OFFER HIM HIS EARTHS, AN OFFERING, THAT THE MANY MAY LIVE FOR A SEASON LONGER. WARDUM LIGGAE."

THOSE ARE NOT ANSWERS. IT'S GIBBERISH.

SCARY TALES FOR FOOLISH CHILDREN. I AM NO CHILD, WOMAN, TELL ME SOMETHING REAL.

ALL I HAVE, ALL I HAVE EVER KNOWN, ARE SCARY STORIES. AND THEY ARE *ALL* REAL...

THE INCURSIONS NEVER STOP, NOT UNTIL YOUR WORLD DIES-- NOT UNTIL EVERYTHING DIES.

THIS IS ALL THERE IS.

THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING WE CAN DO TO SAVE OUR UNIVERSE-- TO STOP THESE INCURSIONS.

STOPPING THE INCURSIONS FROM HAPPENING IS NOT DIFFICULT AT ALL.

OH?

COME NOW, REED RICHARDS...SURELY YOU'VE FIGURED THIS OUT.

SIMPLY EVACUATE THIS WORLD, AND THEN DESTROY IT COMPLETELY. IT HAS BEEN DONE MANY, MANY TIMES BEFORE.

YOU.

YOU ARE HENRY PHILIP McCOY, ARE YOU NOT?

YES.

OTHER YOUs HAVE DONE THIS BEFORE.

THE BEAST IS A NAME WELL KNOWN IN THE GREAT GAME OF WORLDS.

AND THIS WOULD SAVE OUR UNIVERSE?

YOU'RE NOT LISTENING. THERE IS NO SAVING ANYTHING.

BUT IT WILL END THE INCURSIONS. THIS IS THE EIGHTH WAY, CALLED *SHADING THE APOCALYPSE.*

IT IS A COWARDLY PATH. BUT ONE OFTEN CHOSEN.

THE EIGHTH WAY...SO THERE ARE OTHER TRICKS-- OTHER METHODS-- THINGS YOU CAN TEACH US?

YES.

THEN WE SHOULD START THERE. I THINK--

NO.

I STILL HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THIS.

WITH HER.

I KNOW YOU ARE NO COWARD, WARRIOR.

WHAT IS THIS WEAKNESS?

I WATCHED YOU KILL A WORLD.

I HAVE DONE WORSE.

YOU WILL ALL DO WORSE.

PERHAPS SOMETHING IN GOOD FAITH... SOMETHING TIMELY.

THE DEVICES YOU HAVE IMPLANTED IN YOUR PALMS--THEY ARE A GOOD START, BUT YOU WILL NEED SOMETHING MORE ACCURATE GOING FORWARD.

A DEVICE SLIGHTLY OUT OF PHASE WITH YOUR NATIVE UNIVERSE WILL ALLOW YOU TO FORECAST COMING INCURSIONS.

MINE ARE IN MY EYES.

AND YOU CAN PREDICT WHEN AN INCURSION WILL OCCUR?

I CAN.

THEN HOW LONG UNTIL THE NEXT ONE?

MINUTES.

RABUM ALAL.

DAMN.

WHERE?

TRIANGULATING... IT'S COMING UP NOW.

IT'S... OH, NO.

THE LOCATION...

WHAT'S WRONG?

WHAT IS IT?

IT'S LATVERIA.

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

So how do you follow up on the most successful super hero movie ever put to film? Well, if you're the talented crew at Marvel Studios, the answer is **IRON MAN 3**, causing a stir at your local film emporium starting May 3, 2013! We're sure you've all seen the action-packed trailer for the film by now—but, if not, point your electronic device at the poster image on this page and activate the Marvel AR App, and excitement shall be yours! If you don't have a whatchamacallit electronic device, we're afraid you'll just have hold out for a few more weeks! But trust us—it'll be worth it!

Beyond our usual releases, there's a pair of projects this month that AVENGERS fans may want to pay special attention to. Proving he's more than just a pretty face at the end of a blockbuster movie, Jason Aaron and Simone Bianchi reveal the full story of the life of Thanos the Mad Titan in **THANOS RISING**! And for those who miss writer Brian Bendis around these parts—and who doesn't?—the ongoing saga of **AGE OF ULTRON** continues this month with three additional issues—Issue #6 in particular should prove a special treat for long-time AVENGERS fans!

Hey, it's mailbag time!

Have you ever thought about having a poll to see which is the best current AVENGERS title? If so, UNCANNY AVENGERS has my vote. Coming from somebody who has been collecting comics and Avengers since they had a twelve cent cover price, I think it's better than AVENGERS, NEW AVENGERS, AVENGERS ASSEMBLE, SECRET AVENGERS, HONEY, I SHRUNK THE AVENGERS, etc. Hypothetically if I only could get one AVENGERS title a month it would be UNCANNY AVENGERS. Hypothetically if I only could get one Marvel title a month it would be HAWKEYE, but I'd be pretty ticked off at these hypothetical people/reasons limiting my Marvel purchases to just one book a month and I'd raise enough hell that the hypothetical people/reasons would let me get two Marvel titles to placate me. And the second title would be UNCANNY AVENGERS. If I could go back in time and rename my daughter, I'd rename her UNCANNY AVENGERS. (HAWKEYE is a silly name for a little girl anyway.)

If you can't tell, I'm really liking the book.

Make Mine Marvel.
Rob Shelor
Roanoke, VA

Ask and ye shall receive, Rob! So a poll it is! We're calling on all of our faithful Marvel readers to drop us a line at the e-mail address below and let us know which AVENGERS title is your favorite! And as long as we're asking, how about telling us your favorite current AVENGERS family writer, penciler, inker, letterer and colorist as well? Results to be tabulated and printed in an upcoming ASSEMBLY page!

And because we're always a sucker for letters like this one:

Dear Marvel,
A lot of people have their own opinions of a "hero," and this is mine...my fiancé Paul! He's my hero!

A year ago he was in a terrible car crash, which left him paralyzed from his waist down. This means his only way of getting around is in a wheelchair. Before the accident he was very active and always on his feet.

For as long as I have known Paul, he's been a huge fan of Marvel! I never knew anyone could have such an obsession with anything.

I was oblivious to super heroes before the accident, a bit like Penny and Leonard's relationship from "The Big Bang Theory." Paul can't do anything active and is always bored. Then about 6 months ago when I came in from work he had gotten his brother to get all his old comics out. That day was the most I had seen him smile in a long time.

We also have 2 children together, they are both super hero daft too! Obviously due to Paul's accident he can't enjoy normal father and son activities, but he loves to read them both comics.

Thanks to Marvel, we have a bond like never before, as I'm now a huge fan too and we can enjoy things together. Thanks to Marvel. I now see a smile on my fiancé's face every day. He's always looking forward to what's new!

Thank you so much for your time and brilliant storylines over the years!

Most of all, thank you for giving Paul motivation to get through the days!

Yours Faithfully,
Chelsey Wright

NEXT ISSUE:

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

AVENGERS #9
THE POWER OF STARBRAND IS UNLEASHED!
AVENGERS #10
IT'S A MISSION INTO CANADA TO RESCUE OMEGA FLIGHT!
AVENGERS ARENA #7
HOW DID ARCADE BECOME ALL-POWERFUL? THE ANSWER IS HERE!
AVENGERS ARENA #8
THE SECRETS OF X-23 AND DARKHAWK COME TO LIGHT!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #14AU
AN AGE OF ULTRON TIE-IN! THE BLACK WIDOW FACES THE END OF THE WORLD ON THE WEST COAST!
DARK AVENGERS #189
THE PENULTIMATE CHAPTER OF THE VILLAINS-TURNED-HEROES SAGA!
NEW AVENGERS #5
WHAT IS THE SECRET OF THE MYSTERIOUS BLACK SWAN?
SECRET AVENGERS #3
INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT IRON PATRIOT! BELIEVE US, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
UNCANNY AVENGERS #7
RAGNAROK NOW! KICKS OFF WITH THE DEATH OF A CELESTIAL AND THE SUCCESSOR TO APOCALYPSE!
YOUNG AVENGERS #4
HAWKEYE AND MARVEL BOY MAKE THE SCENE!
A + X #7
IRON MAN AND THE BEAST! ALSO, THOR TEAMS UP WITH ICEMAN!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #12

When you see the AR icon, open up the MARVEL AR app (available on applicable Apple & iOS or Android devices) and use your camera-enabled device to unlock extra, interactive content!

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JONATHAN HICKMAN
RICK MAGYAR

STEVE EPTING
FRANK D'ARMATA

MARVEL NOW!

PREVIOUSLY IN NEW AVENGERS

BLACK SWAN. I'M TOLD YOU JUMPED HERE FROM ANOTHER WORLD...THAT YOU HAD SOME KIND OF DEVICE, AND THEN YOU DESTROYED THE PLANET YOU CAME FROM.

THE TURN OF THE WHEEL BREAKS HOPE--IT CRUSHES WHAT MAKES US DECENT AND STEALS WHAT LITTLE HONOR REMAINS.

WE WILL TRY EVERY GOOD AND RIGHTEOUS SOLUTION WE CAN.

"AND IF THOSE DON'T WORK?"

"THEN WE WILL HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO DESTROY A WORLD."

YOU CAN PREDICT WHEN AN INCURSION WILL OCCUR?

YES.

HOW LONG UNTIL THE NEXT ONE?

MINUTES. SO YOU'RE FINALLY READY TO HEAR REAL ANSWERS...

IT'S...OH, NO.

THE LOCATION...

IT'S LATVERIA.

THE ILLUMINATI

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Celestial Messiah

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"BLUE HELL"

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NECROPOLIS.
7:29:43 UNTIL OBLIVION.

YOU UNDERSTAND HOW THIS IS GOING TO WORK?

OF COURSE.

JUST FOR MY PEACE OF MIND...

I'D LIKE TO HEAR YOU SAY IT.

VERY WELL.

I AM TO OBSERVE, AND WHEN NEEDED--AND ASKED--OFFER INFORMATION THAT YOU...*GREAT MEN* CAN FIND USEFUL.

AND WHILE IT HAS REMAINED UNMENTIONED IN THIS CONVERSATION, IF I FAIL TO ACT PROPERLY, I AM CERTAIN YOUR KING OF THE DEAD WILL WELCOME ME INTO HIS KINGDOM OF DUST.

RABUM ALAL, NADANU ANNU AMELSERRU LIBBU.

JUST SO LONG AS WE'RE CLEAR.

TELL ME, ANTHONY STARK...DOES MY SUBSERVIENCE MAKE YOU FEEL POWERFUL?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HOW I FEEL, WORRY ABOUT WHAT WE'RE DOING...

TO THAT END, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO SEE BEFORE WE LEAVE.

WE'VE BUILT SOMETHING OF YOURS...

AND WE NEED TO KNOW IF WE'VE DONE IT CORRECTLY.

MUCH OF THIS WAS SIMPLE DEDUCTION--WE REVERSE ENGINEERED THE TRIGGER AND WENT FROM THERE.

IT'S FUNCTIONAL. WE'RE SURE IT WORKS...

BUT THIS IS NOT THE KIND OF THING YOU GET TO BETA TEST.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?

YES. IT'S AN ANTIMATTER INJECTION SYSTEM MEANT TO DESTROY A WORLD.

IT'S HOPE.

A GIFT FROM RABUM ALAL...AND NOW YOU CAN ENTER THE GREAT STRUGGLE ARMED.

I AM VERY PROUD OF ALL OF YOU.

I'M SORRY, BUT I THINK YOU'VE MADE THE COMMON MISTAKE OF CONFUSING EXPEDIENCY WITH DESIRE.

NEEDS AND WANTS, AS IT WERE.

YES.

LIKE THESE FOOLS HERE ***NEED*** TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SAVE THEIR WORLD, BUT ***WANT*** TO STILL FEEL LIKE HEROES WHEN THEY WAKE IN THE MORNING.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

ARE WE TAKING THE DEVICE?

DO WE HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE?

GOOD. THE WHEEL GRINDS MEN DOWN OR SHARPENS THEM INTO WEAPONS.

YOU'VE BUILT A KNIFE...

"NOW YOU HAVE TO FIND THE COURAGE TO GET IT BLOODY."

LATVERIA.

THE INCURSION WALL IS TWENTY LENGTHS IN FRONT OF US.

SO...CASTLE DOOM, THE END OF THE WORLD... AND VICTOR.

PERFECT.

LET'S GO.

STRANGE.

WELL, STRANGER. IT'S THE SKY...

NO. NO. NO. NO.

IT'S BLUE.

BLUE. BLUE AND NOT RED.

BLUE IS...MUCH WORSE.

BLUE MEANS *SIDERA MARIS.*

BLUE FOR MAKING MAPS...

CATALOGING FOR FUTU--

IT'S OKAY. WE STILL HAVE TIME...

JUST EXPLAIN WHAT THIS MEANS.

7:20:23

NO.

THERE'S NO TIME...

BLUE MEANS *MAPMAKERS.*

AN INVADING ARMY FROM ANOTHER WORLD.

THIS KEEPS GETTING WORSE.

ACTUALLY, THIS WAS INEVITABLE.

UH-HUH. AT SOME POINT, SOMEONE WAS BOUND TO TRY TO DO TO US WHAT WE'RE CONSIDERING DOING TO THEM.

HAVE I TOLD THE TWO OF YOU HOW MUCH I'M ENJOYING YOUR COMPANY OF LATE?

THERE, TONY.

THE HIGHEST TOWER...IS THAT--

SCANNING NOW.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S GIVING THEM ALL THEY CAN...

WAIT. THAT'S NOT DOOM.

IT'S HIS SON, KRISTOFF VERNARD.

THEN WHERE IS VICTOR...

"WHERE IS DOCTOR DOOM?"

YOU DARE...?

OF ALL THE PLACES IN ALL THE WORLDS, YOU CHOOSE TO ACCOST *DOOM* IN HIS OWN HOME...*YOU DARE?*

FOOLS!

THE VERY WORST OF MEN KNOW BETTER...

GODS KNOW BETTER.

WHO IS BEHIND SUCH FOLLY?

SIDERA MARIS.

DOOM JUST SHOWED UP.

TELEPORTED TO THE TOWER...

HE AND KRISTOFF SEEM TO BE HOLDING THEM FOR NOW.

GOOD.

NO... I THINK NOT.

DOOM IS NOW WITNESSING AN INCURSION. LONG BEFORE THE REST OF THE WORLD, THROUGH BOTH MAGIC AND SCIENCE, LATVERIA HAS LONG BEEN A SURVEILLANCE STATE...

HE'LL HAVE A RECORD OF US BEING HERE. HE'LL HAVE A RECORD OF...*ALL THIS.*

COULD BE PROBLEMATIC SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.

THE FUTURE, YOU SAY?

RIGHT. GOOD POINT.

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE?

AREN'T YOU LISTENING? NO TIME.

YOU HAVE *NO TIME.*

REALLY? CLOCK SAYS WE HAVE A LITTLE OVER SEVEN HOURS.

PLENTY OF TIME TO DECIDE WHAT AWFUL THINGS NEED TO BE DONE, AND THE HANDWRINGING AND SELF-RECRIMINATION SURE TO FOLLOW.

FOOLS!
CAN YOU NOT SEE THE SKY IS BLUE?
RED MEANS ORDER. RED MEANS THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF RABUM ALAL.
BUT BLUE-- BLUE IS AN ABOMINATION. IT MEANS CHAOS... *INFECTION.*
BLUE MEANS MAPMAKERS, AND THEY DO NOT USE INCURSIONS THE WAY THEY WERE INTENDED.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
I WILL SHOW YOU.
BRING THE BOMB.
SEE...

THIS IS NOT AN EARTH... IT IS SOME DEAD OTHER THING.

IT USED TO BE EARTH. IT WAS EARTH...

BEFORE THE MAPMAKERS.

I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING LIVING HERE.

YOU'RE NOT PICKING UP ANY LIFE...NOTHING AT ALL?

NO... MINOR ACTIVITY IN THE CORE, BUT THAT'S IT.

THEY DEVOUR EVERYTHING ON THE PLANET. THEY HARVEST IT...

THEY SUCK THE LIFE FROM EARTH AND LEAVE JUST ENOUGH OF ITS HEART BEHIND AS FUEL FOR WHEN THEY DETONATE THE WORLD.

THEY'RE GOING TO BLOW UP THE PLANET?

"IT'S HOW THE MAPMAKERS MARK NEW TERRITORY.

"THEY WAIT FOR AN INCURSION BETWEEN UNIVERSES, WHEN ONE EARTH TOUCHES ANOTHER.

"THEN THE SIDERA MARIS THEY LEFT BEHIND, THEIR BRIDGE BUILDERS, HOLD THE INCURSION POINT ON THE NEW EARTH.

"THE DEAD WORLD THEY CAME FROM IS INTENTIONALLY DESTABILIZED. AND WHEN AN INCURSION OCCURS...A PIECE OF THE DEAD WORLD IS PULLED FREE...

"CRASHING DOWN TO THE OTHER EARTH. THIS SERVES AS THE TRIGGER FOR THE DETONATION OF THE DEAD WORLD.

"CAUSING IT TO IGNITE WHAT REMAINS OF THE CORE AND DESTROYING THE PLANET.

"THIS WOULD SEEM TO MEAN THE NEW EARTH IS SAVED...

"BUT THE FRAGMENTS OF THE DEAD WORLD ACTUALLY SERVE AS A MARKER.

"AND THEN THE MAPMAKERS COME, HOMING IN ON THOSE MARKERS...NO MATTER HOW LITTLE OF THE REMAINS THERE ARE."

THEY EVOLVED IN THE MULTIVERSE AND MOVE BETWEEN UNIVERSES AT WILL...THEIR DEAD WORLDS FINDING HEALTHY NEW WORLDS TO BE DEVOURED.

THEY MAKE MAPS...AND ROB THE WHEEL OF THOSE THAT WOULD BE TESTED BY IT.

MICROSCOPIC SCAN SHOWS NO ACTIVITY. SUBATOMIC SHOWS A CHANGE STATE...DECAY.

AND THE AURA HERE IS REVEALING...THE LITTLE THAT IS NOT DEAD IS DYING.

THERE TRULY IS NOTHING HERE.

SO THEN WE DO WHAT WE MUST DO...AND ALL OF YOU CAN SLEEP WELL, FOR YOU WILL HAVE DONE NOTHING WRONG.

IS IT THAT SIMPLE? CAN IT BE THAT SIMPLE?

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE HAVE?

THE WORLD WILL FRAGMENT AROUND AN HOUR INTO AN INCURSION.

SO WE HAVE NO TIME.

...SHOULD WE VOTE?

WHY?

WHY LINGER WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT HAS TO BE DONE?

EVERYTHING DIES.

EMPIRES COLLAPSE. KINGS FALL. AND MEN PERISH.

WORLDS END.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

I'M NOT WAITING...

...I'M REMEMBERING WHO I USED TO BE.

CLICK!

IT WAS AN AVENGERS WORLD.

IT WAS THE FIRST OF MANY.

AND NOW YOU ARE A MAN.

MAY YOUR BROTHERS FIND THE WILL TO JOIN YOU SOON.

I TAKE NO PRIDE IN THIS...IN ANY OF IT.

"WHAT WE HAVE DONE HERE TODAY...

"THE ACTIONS WE HAVE TAKEN...

"I BELIEVE THEY WILL HAUNT US UNTIL THE END OF OUR DAYS."

LATER.

SO... BACK IN THE BOX?

WE DID EVENTUALLY VOTE ON ONE THING...

I WAS OUTVOTED.

SOME OTHER TIME, PERHAPS.

YOU SAVED US TODAY.

NO. YOU SAVED YOURSELVES.

REGARDLESS... WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT, DO THAT ENOUGH AND IT WILL BECOME ALL THAT MATTERS.

I SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING... IT'S MY GIFT.

THE OTHERS WILL COME AROUND...COME TO SEE THE SITUATION AS I DO.

THEY'LL UNDERSTAND...

WE NEED YOU.

I TOLD YOU TO STAY OUT OF MY MIND.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

DO YOU MISS YOUR MASTER GALAKTUS?

I DO NOT.

I SEE...

BUT DO YOU MISS FINDING WORLDS TO DESTROY?

MORE THAN ANYTHING.

A DAY IS COMING.

SOON, I THINK...

WE CAN FIND EACH OTHER...

USEFUL.

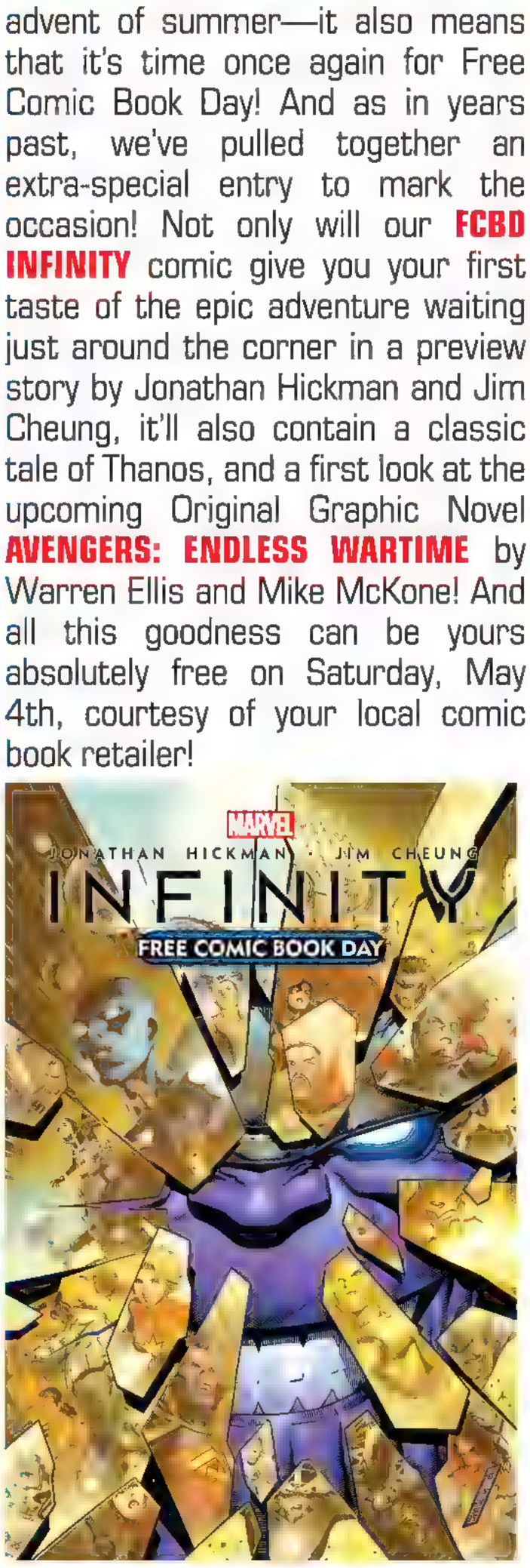
EPILOGUE.
LATVERIA.

FATHER...
WE HAVE SOMETHING.
AN ARTIFACT FROM THE EVENT.
IT WAS FOUND OUTSIDE THE CASTLE...
THEY SAID IT FELL FROM THE SKY.
NEW AVENGERS

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

May doesn't just represent the advent of summer—it also means that it's time once again for Free Comic Book Day! And as in years past, we've pulled together an extra-special entry to mark the occasion! Not only will our **FCBD INFINITY** comic give you your first taste of the epic adventure waiting just around the corner in a preview story by Jonathan Hickman and Jim Cheung, it'll also contain a classic tale of Thanos, and a first look at the upcoming Original Graphic Novel **AVENGERS: ENDLESS WARTIME** by Warren Ellis and Mike McKone! And all this goodness can be yours absolutely free on Saturday, May 4th, courtesy of your local comic book retailer!



If you haven't been following the excellent **CAPTAIN MARVEL** series written by Kelly Sue DeConnick, now would be a good time to start! And to motivate you, we're kicking off a little micro-event between that title and KS's other ongoing book, **AVENGERS ASSEMBLE**! It all begins this month in the pages of the special introductory one-shot **AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN**, as the medical condition that's caused Carol Danvers to be grounded grows worse—and menaces from her and the Avengers' pasts begin to appear from out of nowhere! What's behind it? Check out **AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN #1** for your first clue—and then follow the story into AVENGERS ASSEMBLE and CAPTAIN MARVEL next month!

MARVEL'S AVENGERS ASSEMBLE takes the adventures of your favorite Super Heroes from the big screen to YOUR screen this summer! Let's do a headcount: Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hawkeye, Falcon, Black Widow... and of course... they have a Hulk! Together, they'll face an evil team-up featuring some of the biggest villains in the Marvel Universe: Red Skull, M.O.D.O.K., Dr. Doom, Loki and even Dracula! Assemble your team for the series premiere May 26 at 11am ET/10am CT on Disney XD.

And, alas, it's time for the Epic Fail of the Month:

Dear Sir or Madam,

I recently had the pleasure of reading issue #1 of the NEW AVENGERS. But as an Assyriologist, I would like to lodge a protest against the flippantly incorrect references to and use of the Akkadian and Sumerian languages.

In contrast to the Black Panther's statement, the language is neither Sumerian nor high, but rather obviously Akkadian. The entries seem to be taken directly from a poorly-wrought English-Akkadian word list. Even worse, they were not inflected or brought into any even vaguely suitable grammatical form, on the level of "People called Romans they go the house."

While your work is, as always, of the highest quality, such inaccuracies do a great disservice to both your buying public and to one of the oldest civilizations known to mankind. Had the Sumerians shown the same level of sloppiness when they invented writing, we would never have gotten this show off the ground.

With kind regards,
Christian W. Hess
Universität Leipzig

Seems like there's only one thing we can say in our defense, Christian: Banana ragtime muffin shock!

NEXT ISSUE:

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

AVENGERS #11
IN HONG KONG, SHANG-CHI FACES AN ANCIENT ENEMY!

AVENGERS #10
A SOJOURN TO THE SAVAGE LAND TURNS DEADLY!

AVENGERS ARENA #9
WHO IS THE APEX PREDATOR?

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #15AU
AN AGE OF ULTRON TIE-IN! ULTRON ATTACKS THE UNITED KINGDOM!

DARK AVENGERS #190
FINAL ISSUE! WILL ANYONE MAKE IT BACK ALIVE?

NEW AVENGERS #6
THE ILLUMINATI CROSS THE UNCROSSABLE LINE!

SECRET AVENGERS #4
THE HULK! BUT IS HE FRIEND OR FOE?

UNCANNY AVENGERS #8
CAN THOR PREVENT THE FALLING PEAK STATION FROM OBLITERATING BRAZIL?

UNCANNY AVENGERS #8AU
AN AGE OF ULTRON TIE-IN! KANG AND THE APOCALYPSE TWINS ENTER THE AGE!

YOUNG AVENGERS #5
WHAT SACRIFICE WILL THE YOUNG AVENGERS NEED TO MAKE TO SAVE THEIR PARENTS?

AVENGERS: THE ENEMY WITHIN #1
A NIGHTMARE FROM CAPTAIN MARVEL'S PAST BECOMES FLESH IN THE KICKOFF TO THE CAPTAIN MARVEL/AVENGERS ASSEMBLE CROSSOVER!

A + X #8
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND WOLVERINE! HAWKEYE AND DEADPOOL!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #14

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! E-MAIL US AT: **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM.** PLEASE MARK ALL E-MAILS **"OKAY TO PRINT"**

#1

NEW AVENGERS

#2

#3

#4

#5

#6

#1 VARIANT BY **SKOTTIE YOUNG**

#1 VARIANT BY **STEVE EPTING**

2 SKETCH VARIANT BY J. SCOTT CAMPBELL

#2 VARIANT BY J. SCOTT CAMPBELL & NEI RUFFINO

#2 VARIANT BY **SIMONE BIACHI & SIMONE PERUZZI**

#4 VARIANT BY STEPHANE ROUX

#3 VARIANT PENCILS BY DALE KEOWN

#3 VARIANT BY **DALE KEOWN & MORRY HOLLOWELL**

#6 VARIANT BY **JOE QUINONES & MATTHEW WILSON**

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